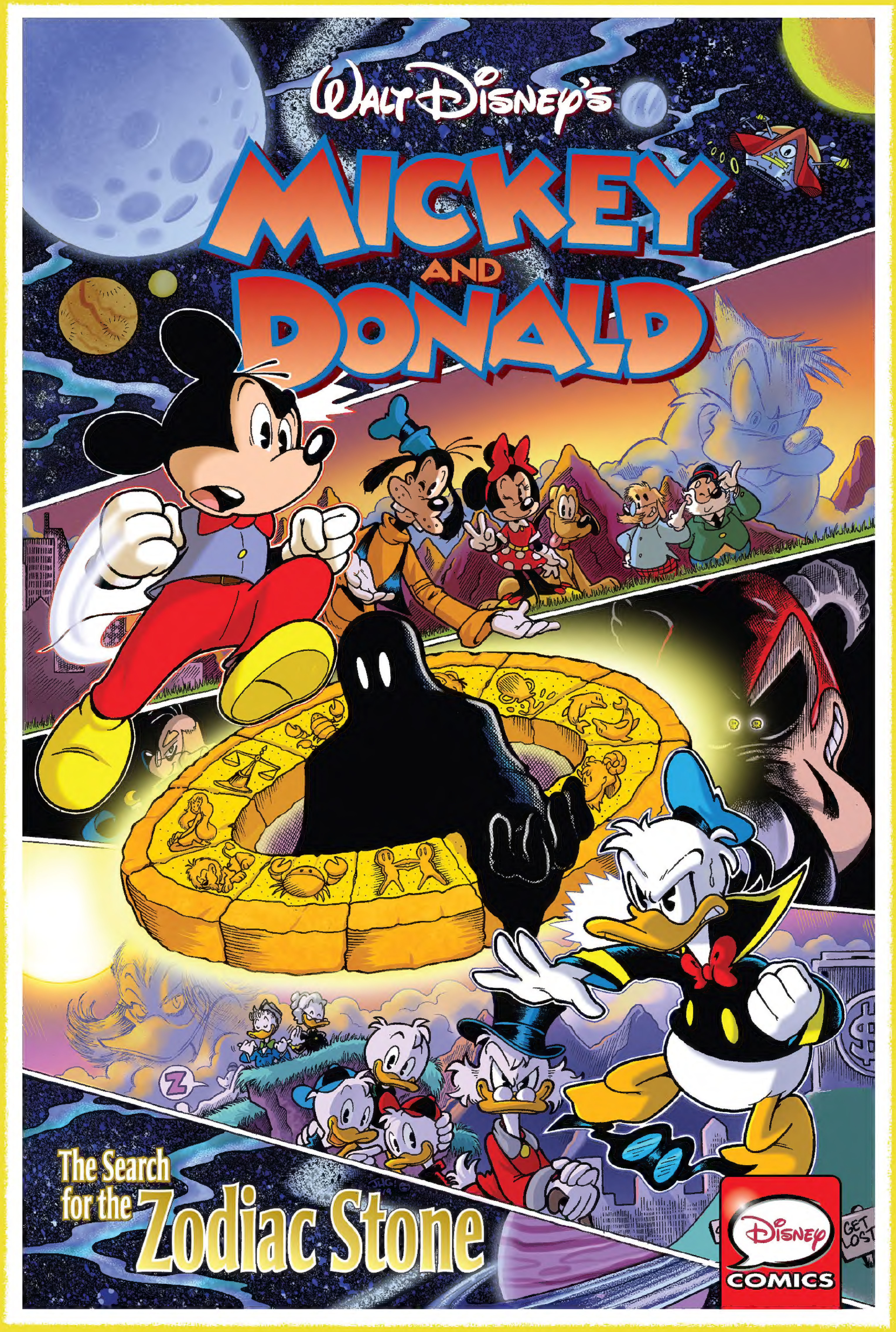
Walt Disney's
MICKEY
AND
DONALD
The Search for the Zodiac Stone
Disney
COMICS
GET LOST

Walt Disney's

MICKEY AND DONALD

The Search for the Zodiac Stone

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The Search for the Zodiac Stone

Originally published in Topolino #1780– 1791 (Italy, 1990)

Writer: **Bruno Sarda**
Artists: **Massimo De Vita** and **Franco Valussi**
Colorists: **Nea Aktina A.E.,** and **Digikore Studios with Travis and Nicole Seitler** and **Tom B. Long**
Letterers: **Travis and Nicole Seitler** and **Tom B. Long**
Translation and Dialogue: **Jonathan H. Gray**

LOOK... UP IN THE SKY!

Disney Comics' Star-Crossed Saga

BELOW:
This early drawing of Donald influencing the stars—first used in the children's book *The Life of Donald Duck* (1941)—appears here as reprinted in Italy in 1965.

"It's not like I *believe* it, but it's so much fun to *read!*" That's how most folks defensively respond when asked about their horoscopes. Others will swear they never look them up at all. But in truth, to see what one's future will be—or even to dream that one can—is an irresistible temptation. All through history, people have tried to investigate their fates and learn about events to come, and their means of forecasting–or *trying* to forecast!–have ranged from riddles to palm-reading to examining tea leaves. Humanity has poked through coffee grounds and birds' entrails for future secrets. We have relied on magicians, fortunetellers, and charlatans of every stripe.

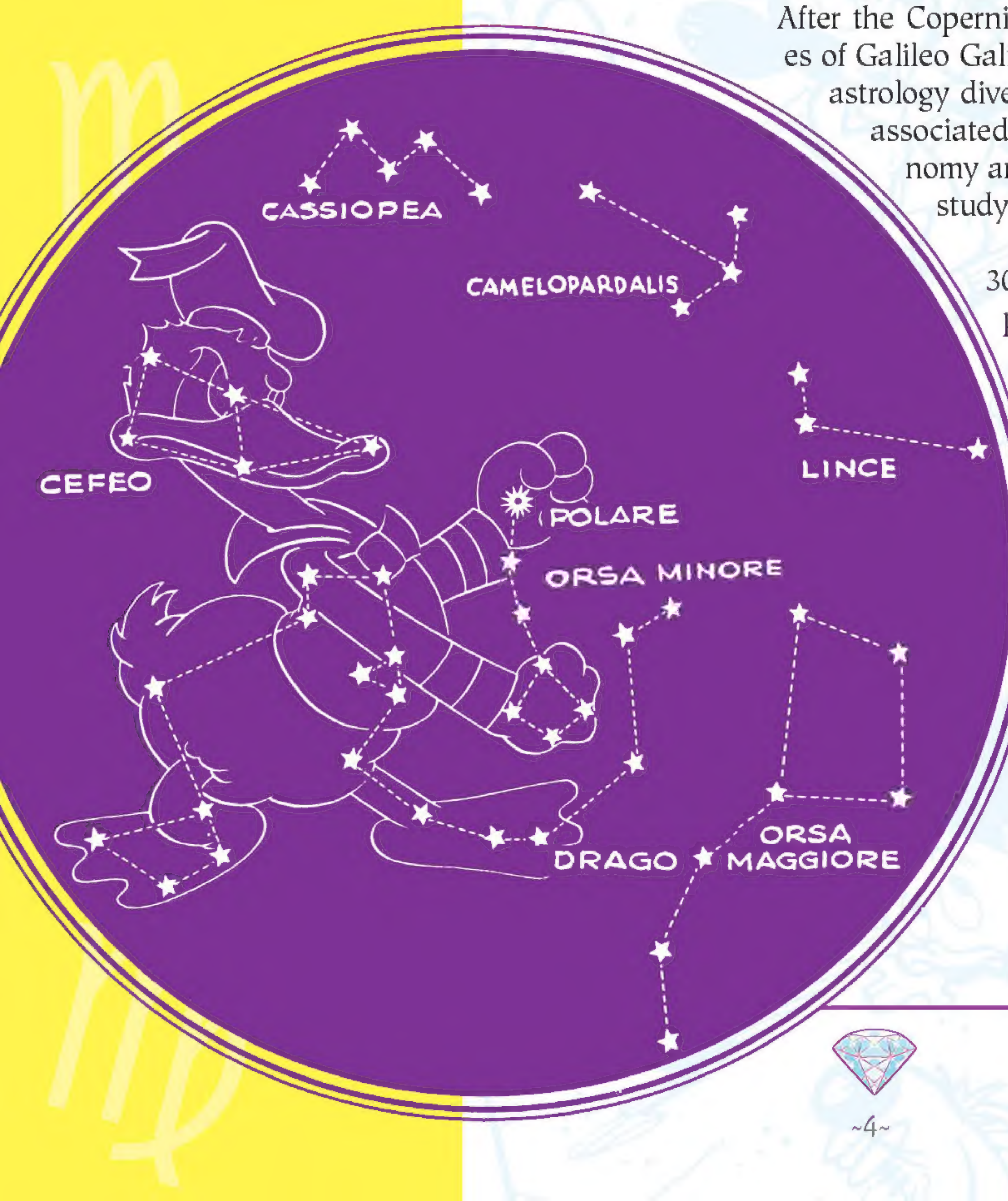
Astrology—understood as the divination of human affairs via the observation of celestial objects—has been a hobby among most peoples of the world since the dawn of time. Even the most sophisticated ancient civilizations tried to find their fates in the stars, even drafting elaborate sky maps with the planets' relative positions illuminated at length.

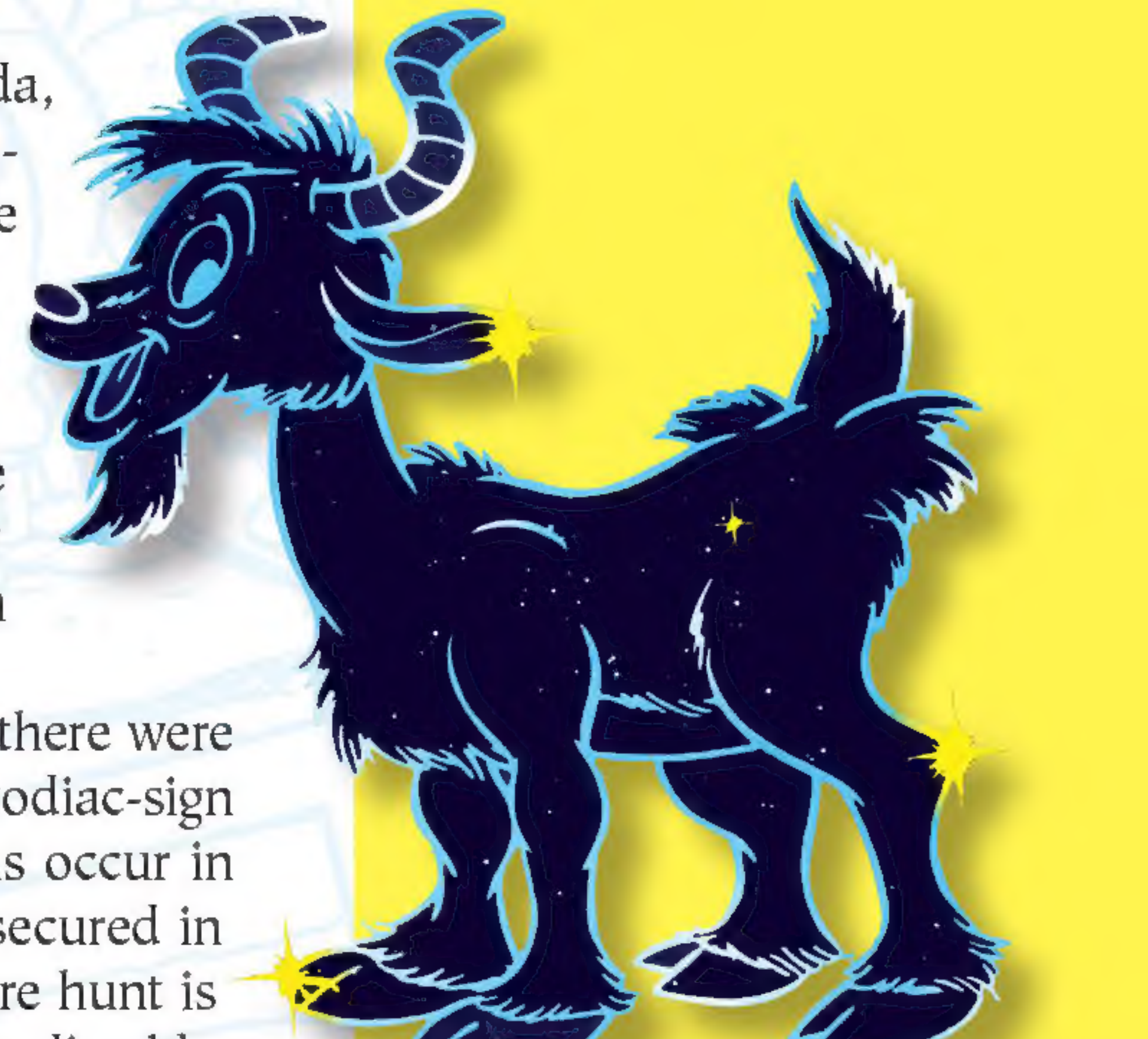
Astrology, in its early days, was intimately intertwined with astronomy; the path from both, as studied in early Babylonian civilization, led directly to Chinese, Mayan, and Indian equivalents. Indeed, as late as the seventeenth century, famed Western astronomers—like Johannes Kepler and Tycho Brahe—still saw no inherent contradiction between the scientific study of stars' movements and the fantastical use of them to predict the future.

After the Copernican revolution, however, and the discoveries of Galileo Galilei (1564-1642), the paths of astronomy and astrology diverged, with the latter becoming more closely associated with superstition and divination. Yet astronomy and astrology still overlapped in one area: the study of the zodiac.

The zodiac is a circle made up of twelve 30° segments, as a whole roughly tracing the path taken by the Sun over the course of the year. The word zodiac originates from the Greek ζωον (zōon), which means "animal"; the use of the term first came about because the segments of the circle—each representing a month—were symbolized by iconic beings, many of them animals. Each of these zodiac signs, both animal and non, were linked to personality traits meant to represent, or somehow impact, people born at that time of year.

In 1990 many more iconic animal figures became associated with the zodiac: the comics heroes of Duckburg and Mouseton, in the super-long adventure serial "The Search for the Zodiac Stone"!

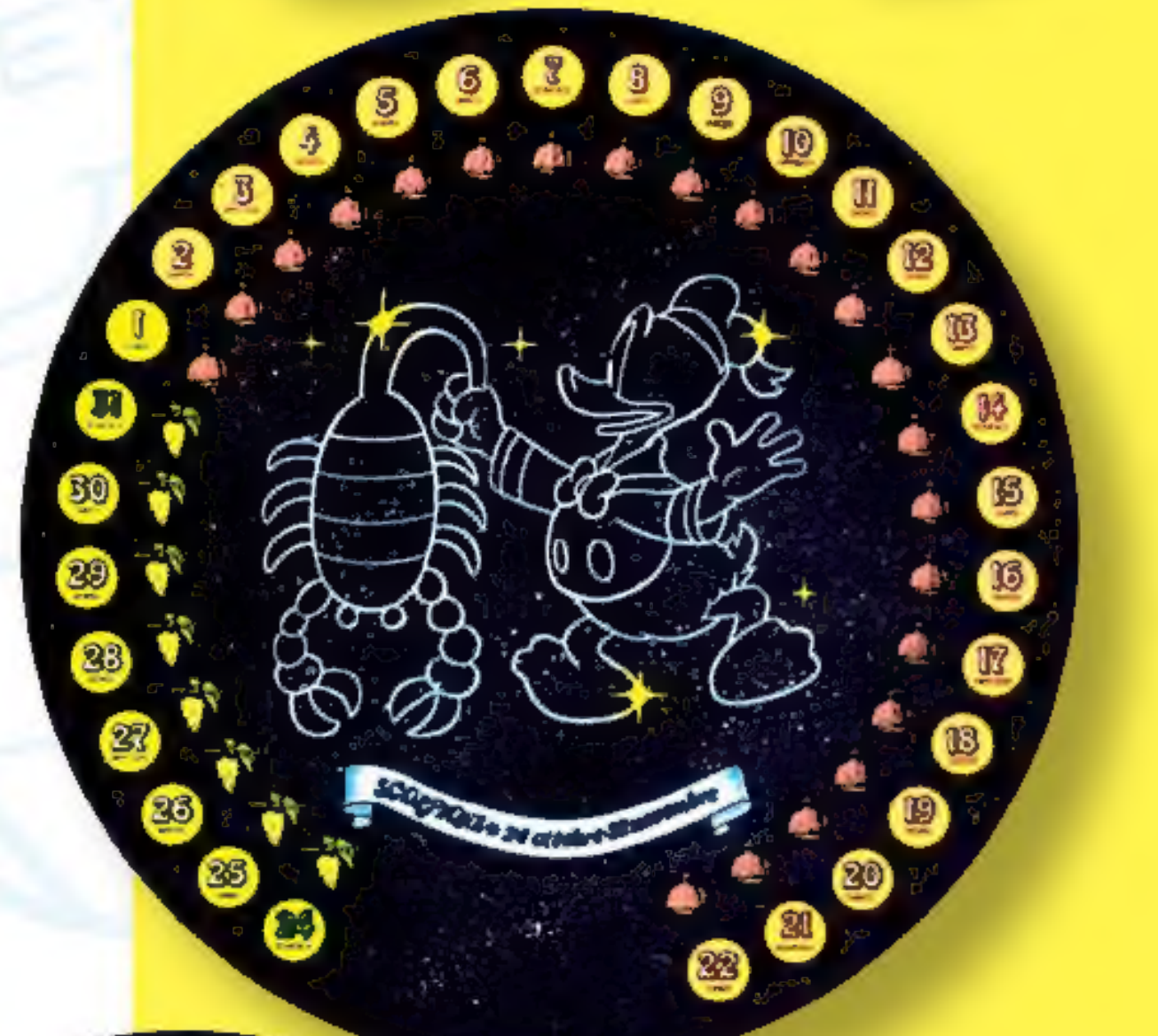




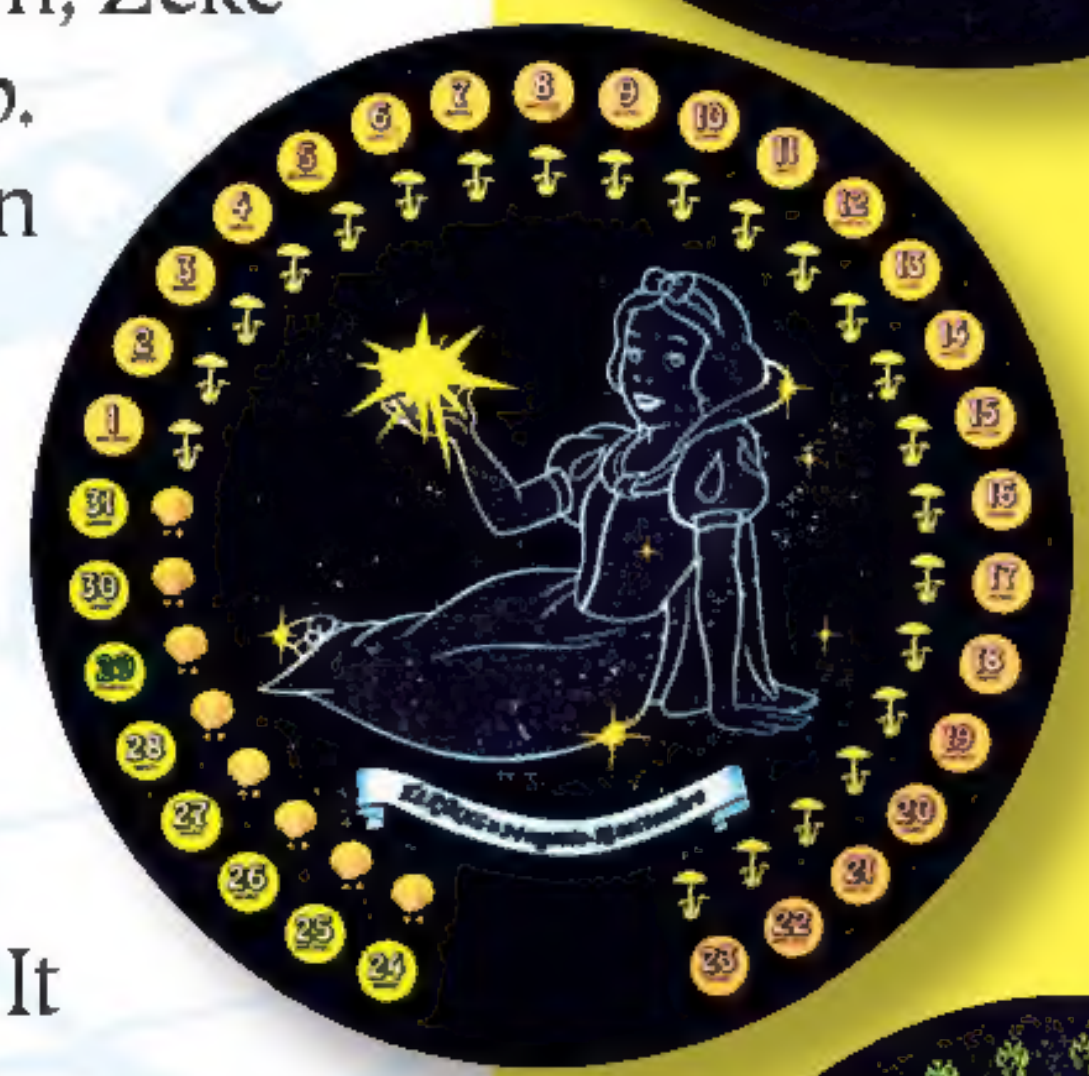
The story began with Italian Disney Comics writer Bruno Sarda, born 1954 in Turin. Sarda created the concept of a magic stone representing the zodiac cycle—deprived of its power when split into twelve individual pendants. Sarda had a yen for comics based on treasure hunting and archaeology; the themes in particular imbued Arizona Goof, Goofy's adventurous archaeologist cousin, a character whom Sarda had recently created at the time. Soon afterward, Sarda saw the recent blockbuster film *Romancing the Stone* (1984)—and was loosely inspired by it to develop another archaeological creation, "The Search for the Zodiac Stone."

While a zodiac-inspired story sounded good from the start, there were some ways in which it proved difficult to create. A hunt for twelve zodiac-sign pendants would naturally seem to progress in the order that the signs occur in the zodiac cycle; but for narrative reasons, the pendants are instead secured in no particular order. The reason given to readers is just that the treasure hunt is complicated, and the locations of the pendants' owners somewhat unpredictable.

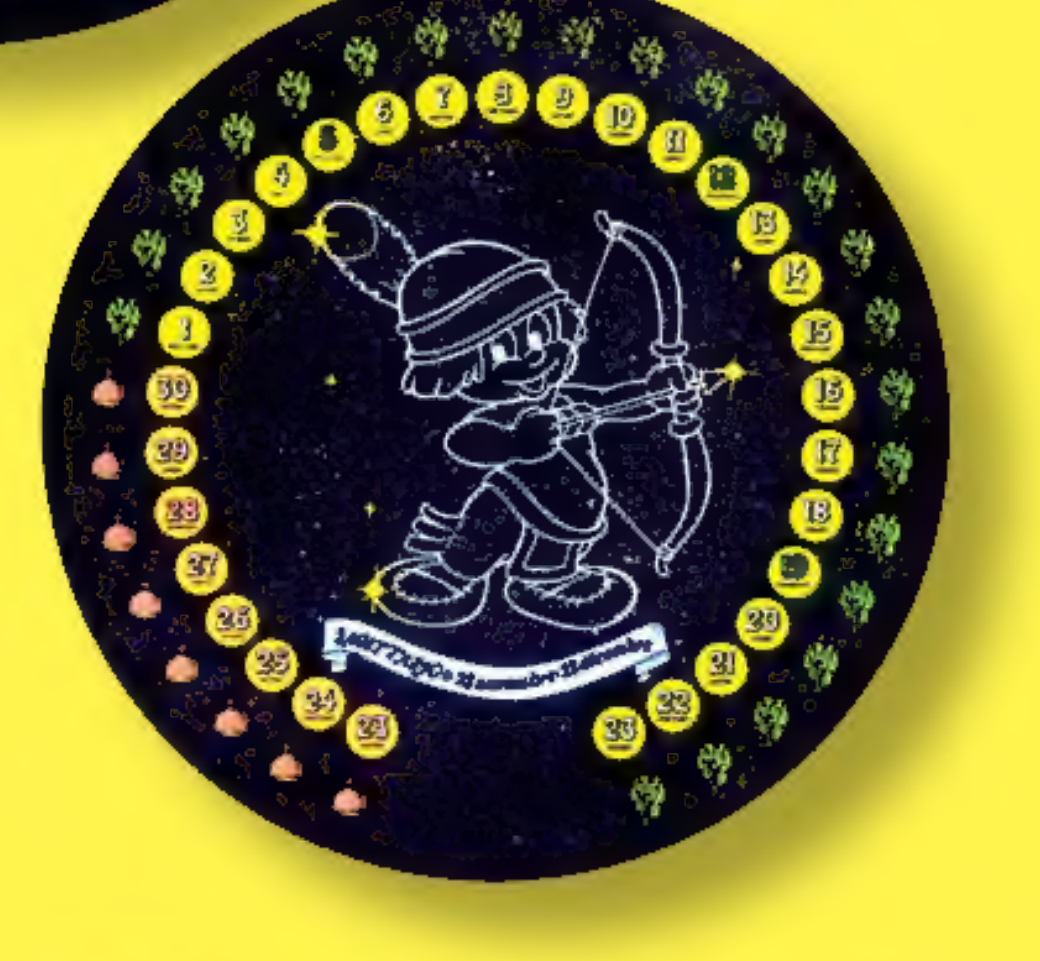
The "Zodiac Stone" story's success, however, was a little easier to predict; not least because in 1990, Italian comics tradition already associated Duckburg and Mouseton characters with the zodiac. As early as the 1950s, Italian Disney comics had published horoscopes for their readers, often in an ongoing feature "hosted" by Daisy Duck; Editor-in-Chief Mario Gentilini drew twelve famous images that were routinely reprinted on this page, portraying iconic Disney characters as zodiac signs. Donald Duck played Aries; Little Hiawatha's dad Big Chief—identified in Italy with Sitting Bull—stood in for Taurus. Huey, Dewey, and Louie were Gemini, Uncle Scrooge Cancer. Pluto was a suspiciously canine Leo; Minnie Virgo, Mickey Libra. Ever-crabby Pegleg Pete was Scorpio; Hiawatha, often portrayed as an archer, was Sagittarius. Goofy as Capricorn, Zeke Wolf as Aquarius, and Gladstone Gander as Pisces rounded out the group.



So popular were these images that more followed. In 1982, an Italian Disney zodiac calendar was published, with twelve new drawings of Mouseton and Duckburg characters as zodiac signs—this time realized by star artist Marco Rota. Five years further on, the monthly Italian Donald comic *Paperino Mese* went back to the same well, featuring a twelve-month run of zodiac-themed Donald Duck gag covers. The concept had become a standby; it was no surprise, then, that a full-fledged zodiac-themed Mouse and Duck adventure should eventually appear. It might have been more surprising if one hadn't.



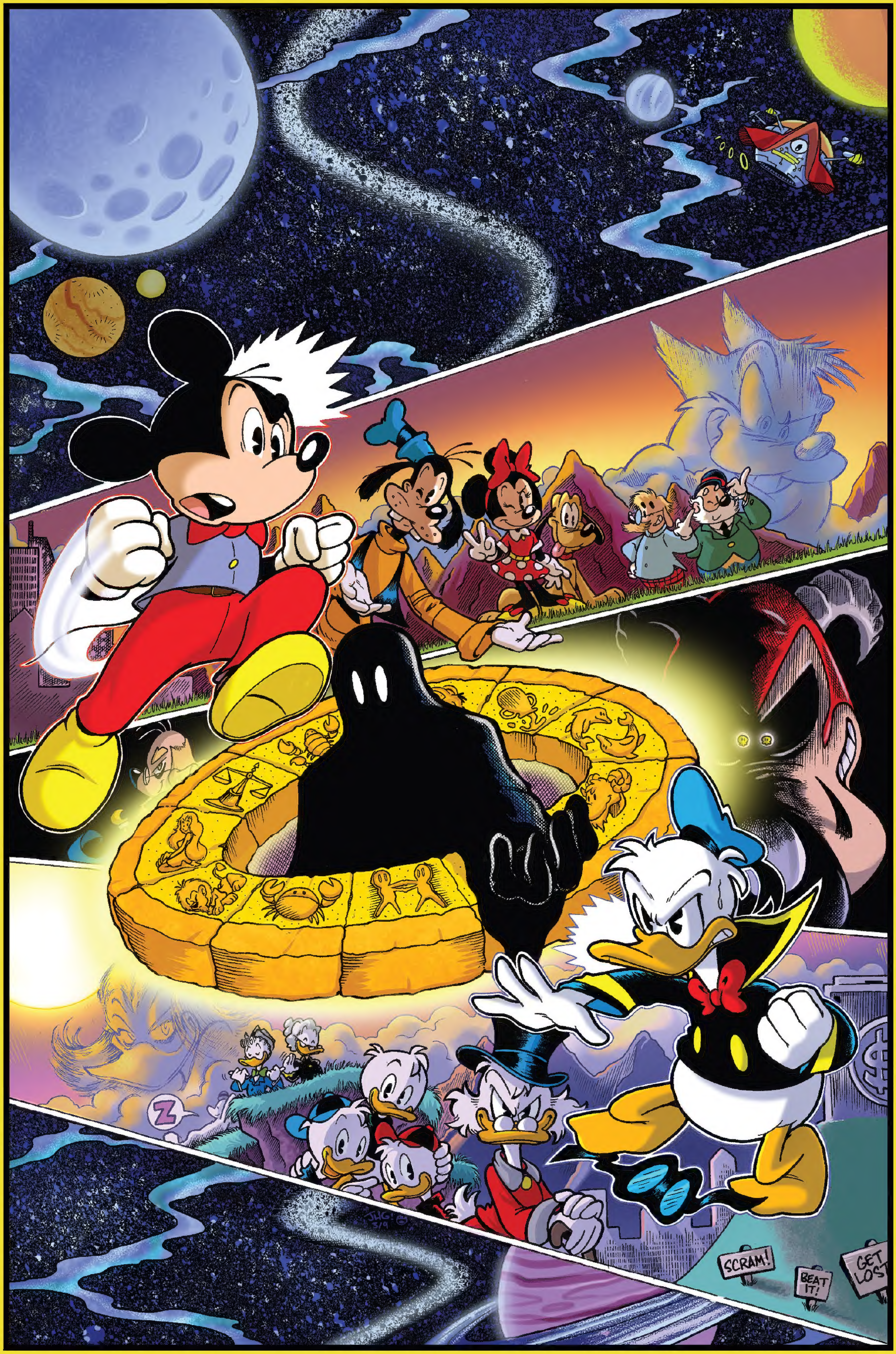
When chapter one of "Zodiac Stone" hit Italian newsstands in *Topolino* #1780 (1990), the creative team set itself a goal: to produce the longest Disney Comics story to date. This would be no mean feat, considering the precedents that existed at the time—from the extended *Mickey Mouse* daily newspaper serials of the 1930s to massive Olympics tie-in stories during the 1970s and 1980s. But "Zodiac Stone" beat all its forerunners at 347 pages. It was a record that has never truly been smashed; while the Italian Mickey costume-drama "Once Upon a Time in America" inarguably covered more pages, it was less a true serial than a series of related stories, linked only by a unifying American-history theme.



That said, Sarda's great accomplishment in "Zodiac Stone" involved quality as much as quantity. To keep readers' attention over so many pages is no easy task; nor is keeping multiple character groups' actions believably entwined over so much incident. The Turin author managed to craft a plotline that folded in numerous different storytelling styles—adventure, sci-fi, myth and legend—while masterfully keeping sight of the greater narrative above them all. "The Search for the Zodiac Stone" was and is, as this English language edition puts it, "an epic yarn of Mice and Ducks."

—Luca Boschi with David Gerstein

TOP:
For the "Zodiac Stone" series, the goat of Capricorn was traded for goat-horned hypnotist Spectrus.
ABOVE:
Marco Rota's drawings for a zodiac-themed 1982 Disney calendar include Donald facing off with Scorpio, Snow White as Virgo, and Little Hiawatha as Sagittarius.


Z
SCRAM!
BEAT IT!
GET LOS

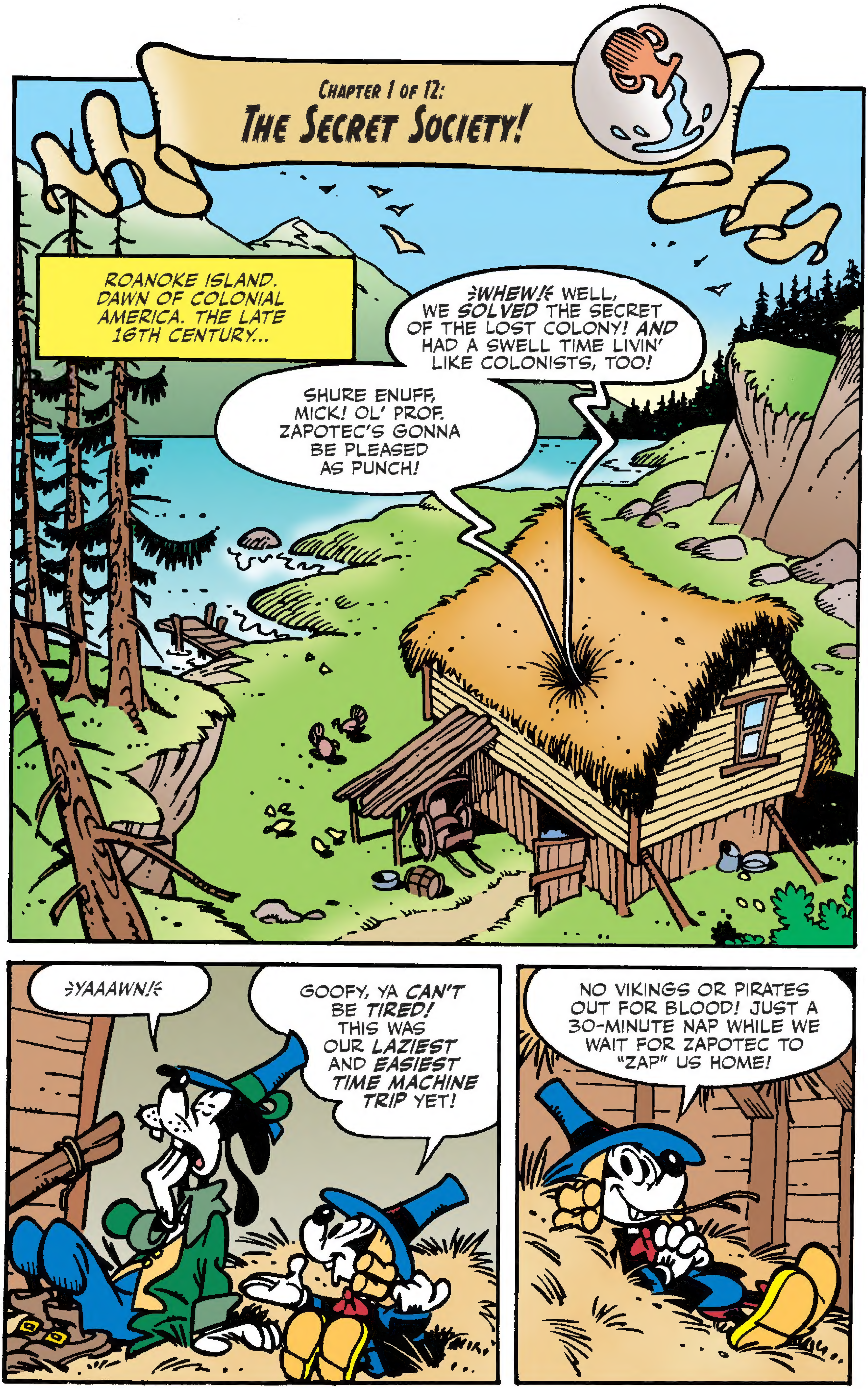
Art by Jonathan H. Gray, Colors by Amy Mebberson

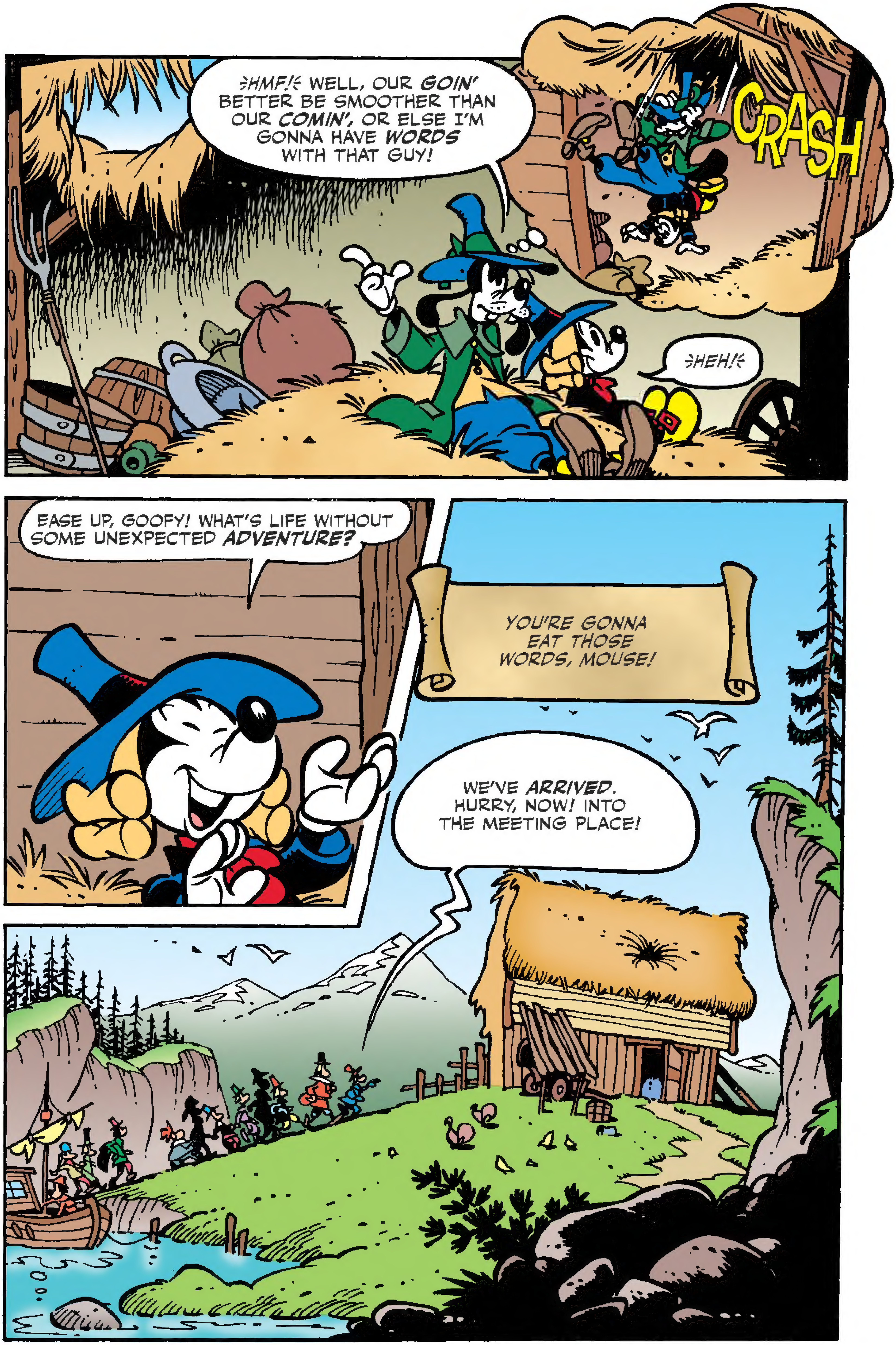
WALT DISNEY
PRESENTS
AN EPIC YARN OF MICE AND DUCKS!
THE LIVES OF MICKEY MOUSE AND DONALD DUCK INTERTWINE WHEN HEROES AND VILLAINS SET OFF ON...
THE
SEARCH
FOR THE
ZODIAC
STONE!
J. 1780

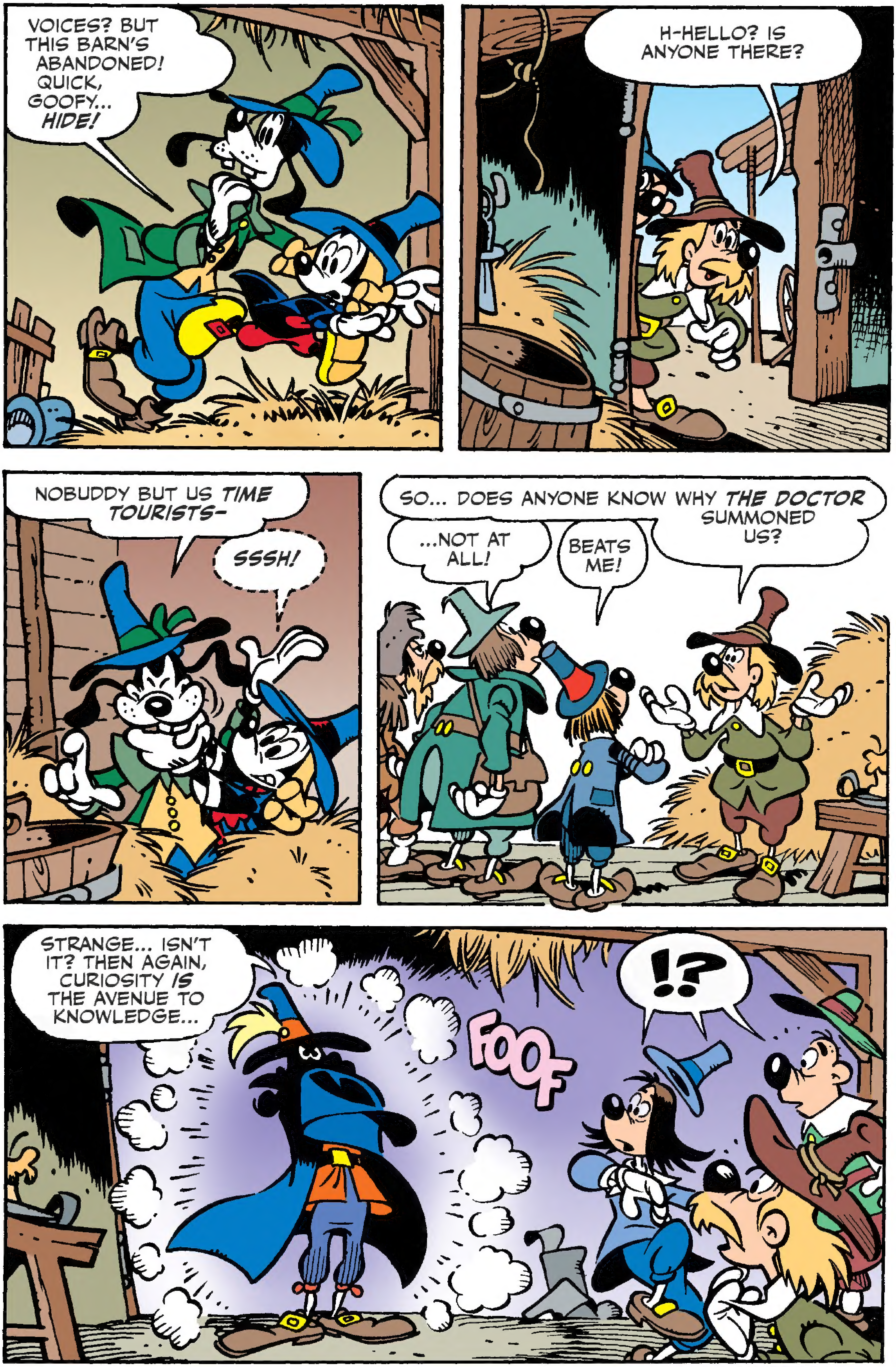
ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN ***TOPOLINO*** *#1780 (ITALY, 1990)*

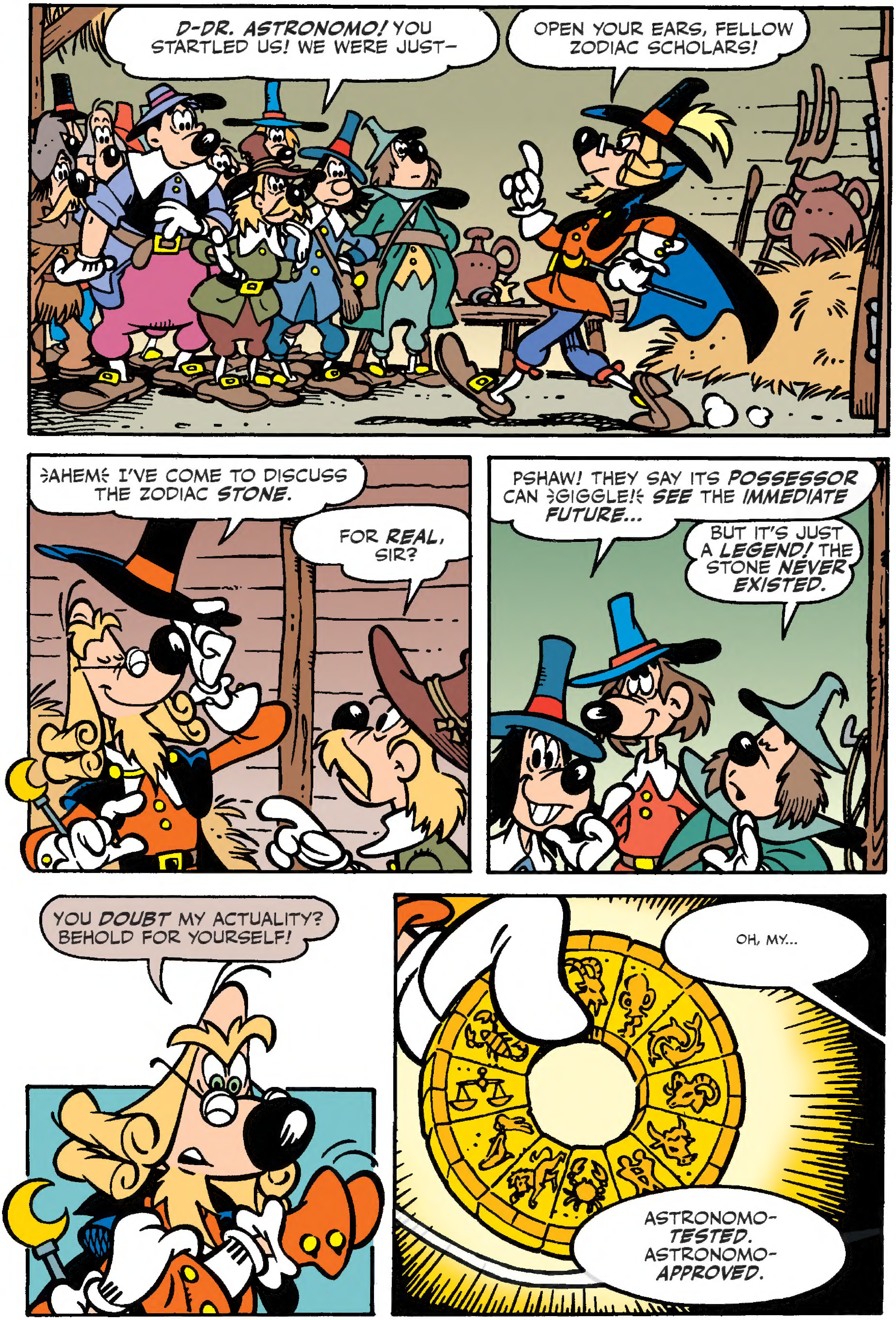
CHAPTER 1 OF 12:

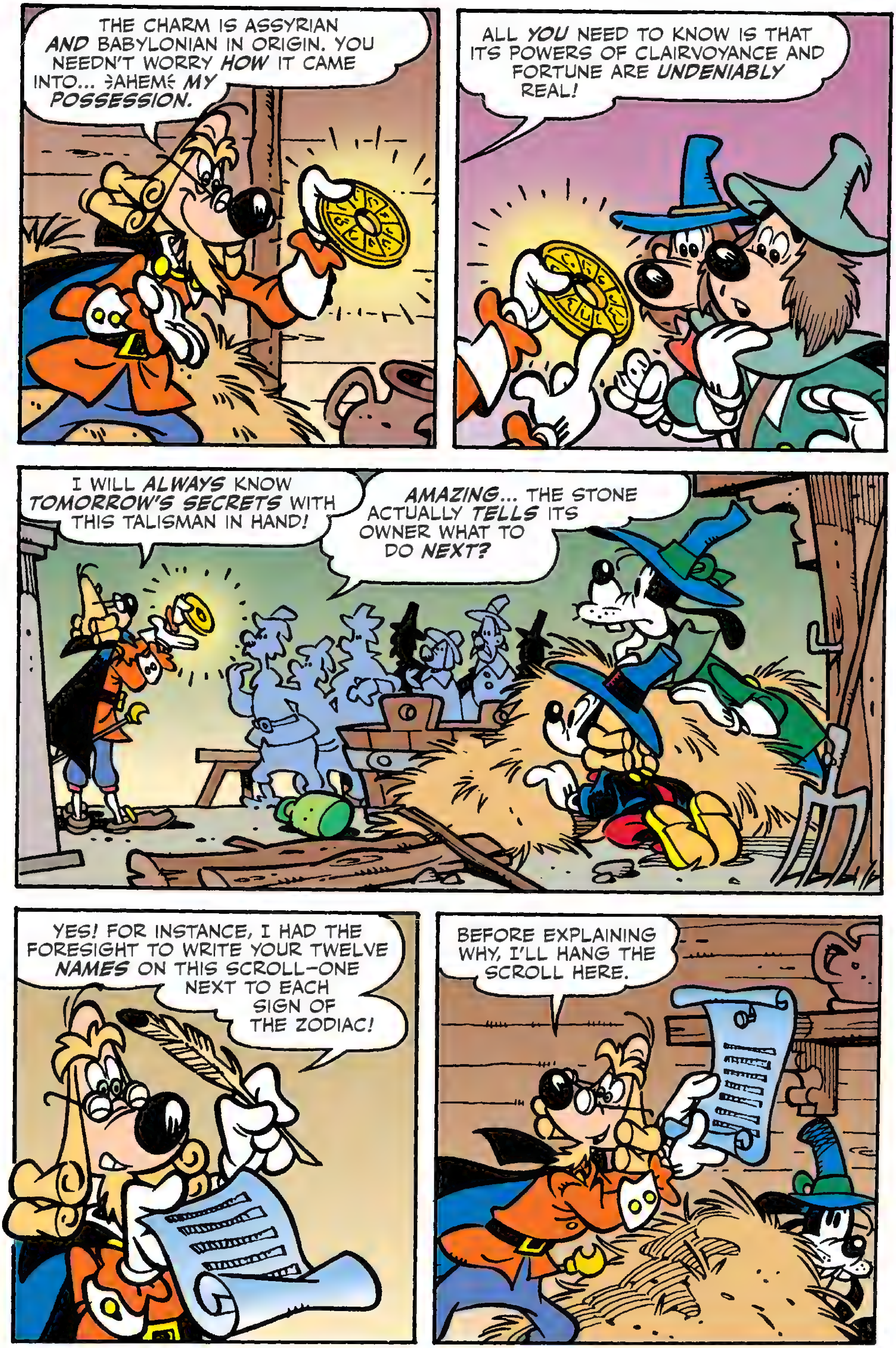
THE SECRET SOCIETY!

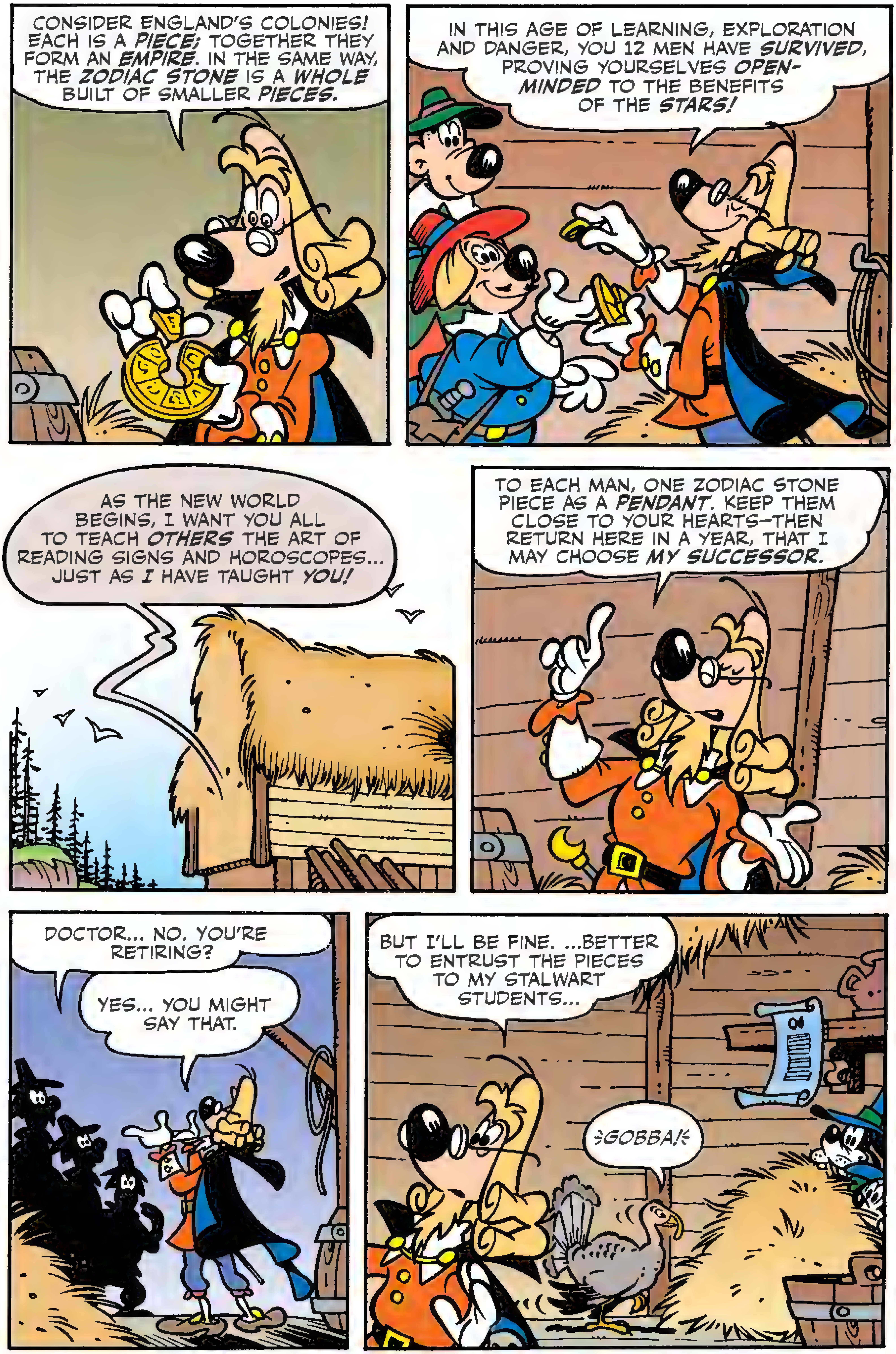

ROANOKE ISLAND. DAWN OF COLONIAL AMERICA. THE LATE 16TH CENTURY...
WHEW! WELL, WE *SOLVED* THE SECRET OF THE LOST COLONY! *AND* HAD A SWELL TIME LIVIN' LIKE COLONISTS, TOO!
SHURE ENUFF, MICK! OL' PROF. ZAPOTEC'S GONNA BE PLEASED AS PUNCH!
YAAAWN!
GOOFY, YA *CAN'T* BE *TIRED!* THIS WAS OUR *LAZIEST* AND *EASIEST TIME MACHINE TRIP* YET!
NO VIKINGS OR PIRATES OUT FOR BLOOD! JUST A 30-MINUTE NAP WHILE WE WAIT FOR ZAPOTEC TO "ZAP" US HOME!

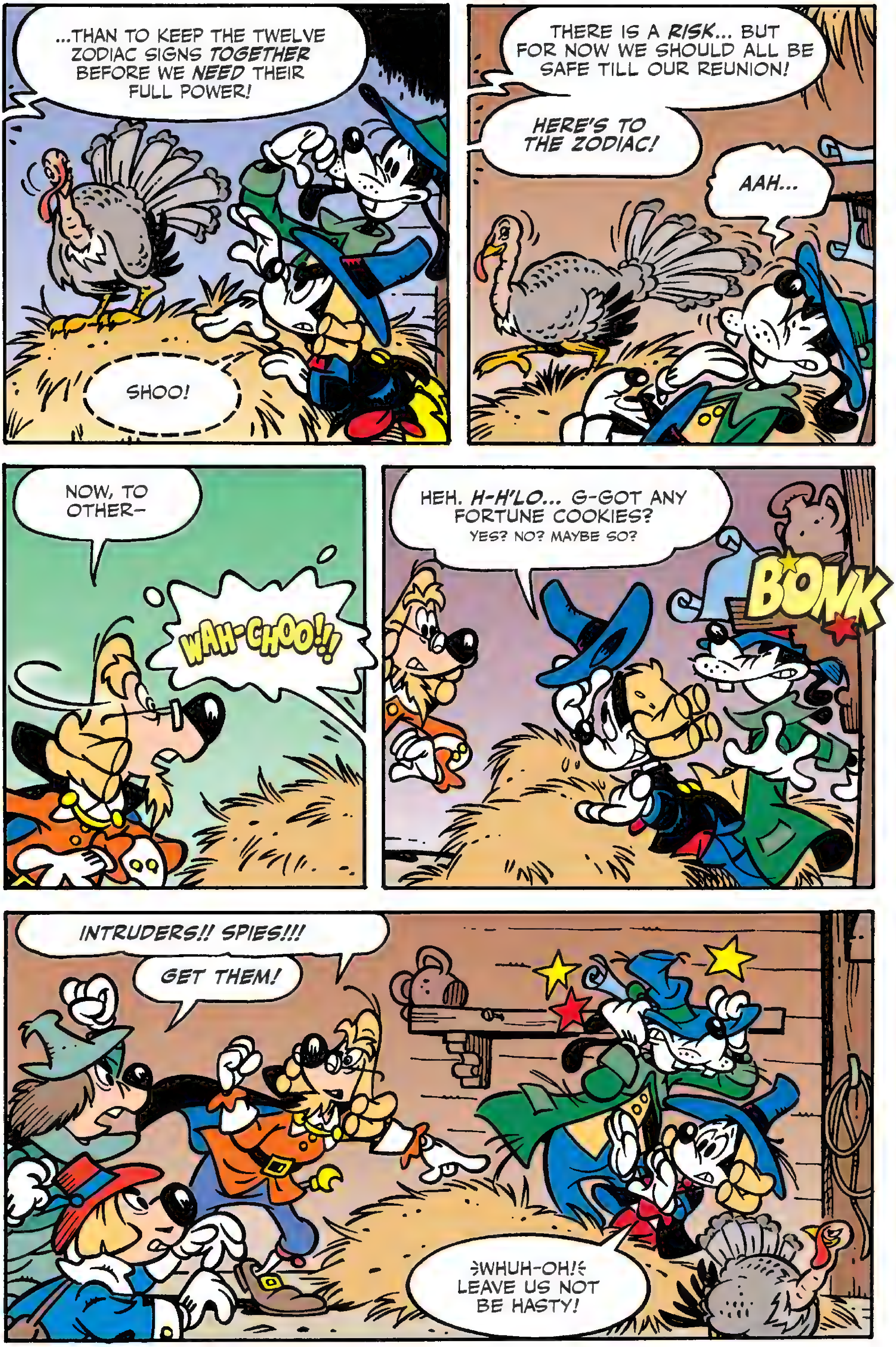

>HMF!< WELL, OUR *GOIN'* BETTER BE SMOOTHER THAN OUR *COMIN'*, OR ELSE I'M GONNA HAVE *WORDS* WITH THAT GUY!
CRASH
>HEH!<
EASE UP, GOOFY! WHAT'S LIFE WITHOUT SOME UNEXPECTED *ADVENTURE?*
YOU'RE GONNA EAT THOSE WORDS, MOUSE!
WE'VE *ARRIVED*. HURRY, NOW! INTO THE MEETING PLACE!

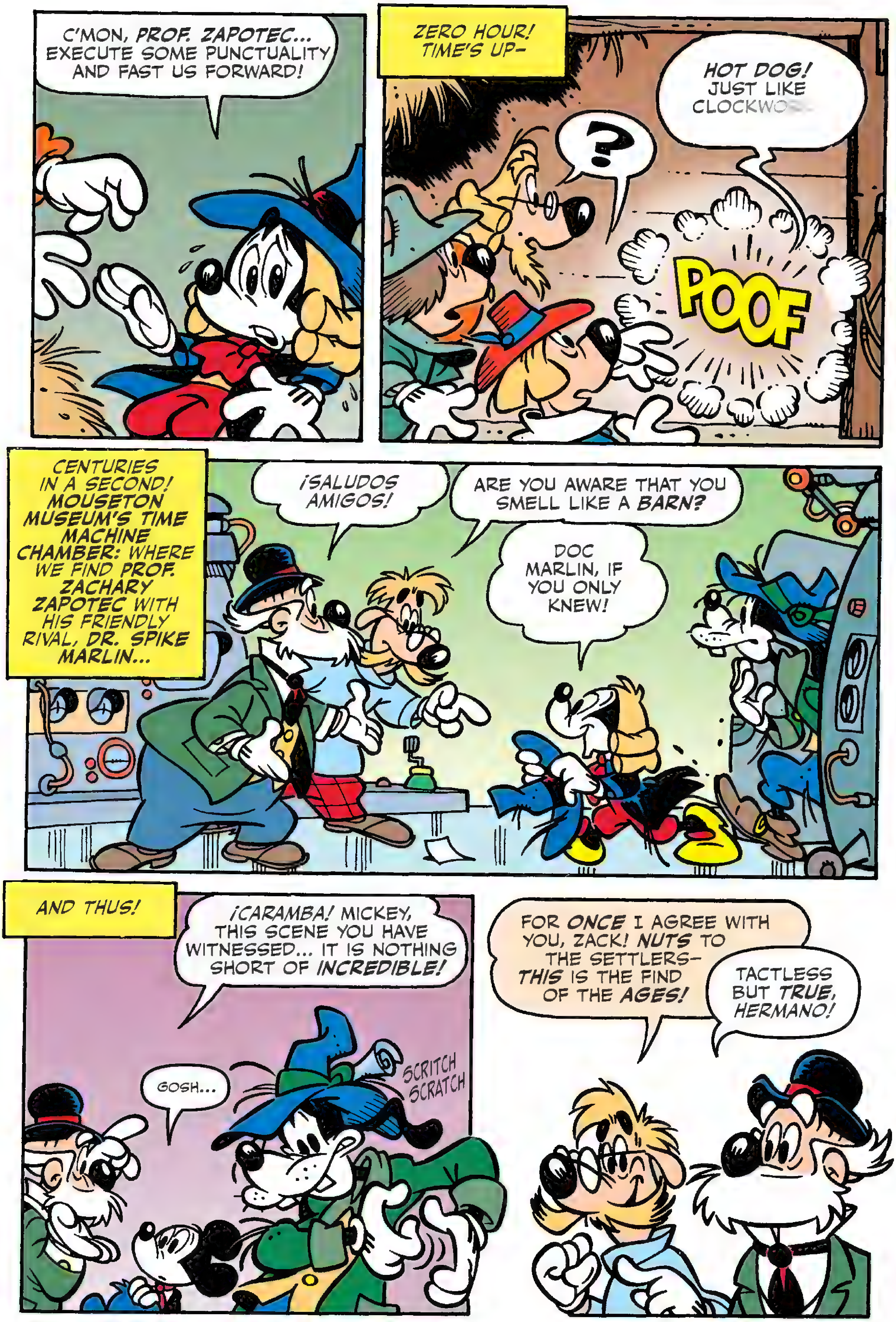

VOICES? BUT THIS BARN'S ABANDONED! QUICK, GOOFY... *HIDE!*
H-HELLO? IS ANYONE THERE?
NOBUDDY BUT US *TIME TOURISTS*–
SSSH!
SO... DOES ANYONE KNOW WHY *THE DOCTOR* SUMMONED US?
...NOT AT ALL!
BEATS ME!
STRANGE... ISN'T IT? THEN AGAIN, CURIOSITY *IS* THE AVENUE TO KNOWLEDGE...
FOOF
!?

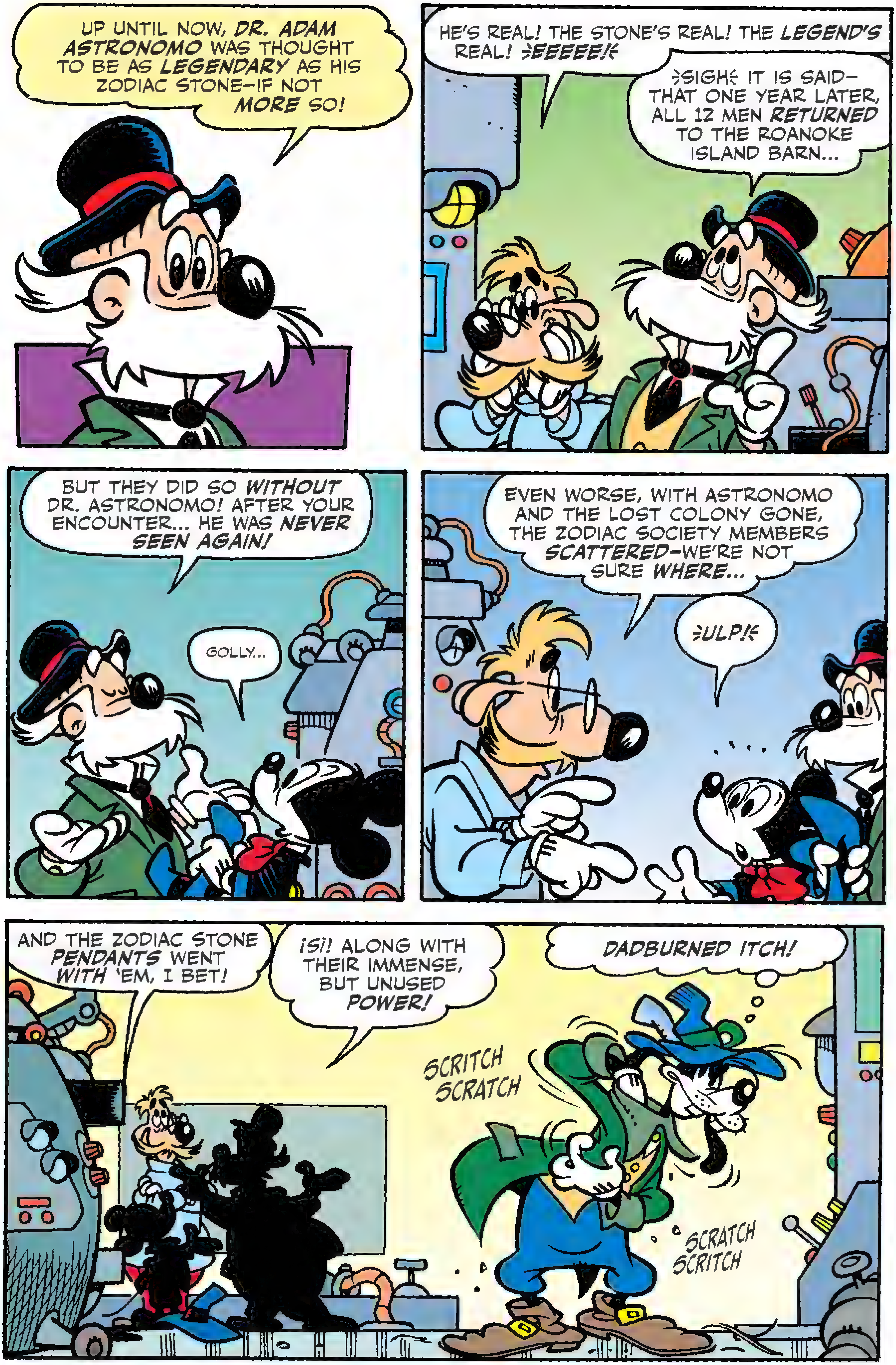

D-DR. ASTRONOMO! YOU STARTLED US! WE WERE JUST–
OPEN YOUR EARS, FELLOW ZODIAC SCHOLARS!
≯AHEM≮ I'VE COME TO DISCUSS THE ZODIAC STONE.
FOR REAL, SIR?
PSHAW! THEY SAY ITS POSSESSOR CAN ≯GIGGLE!≮ SEE THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE...
BUT IT'S JUST A LEGEND! THE STONE NEVER EXISTED.
YOU DOUBT MY ACTUALITY? BEHOLD FOR YOURSELF!
OH, MY...
ASTRONOMO-TESTED. ASTRONOMO-APPROVED.

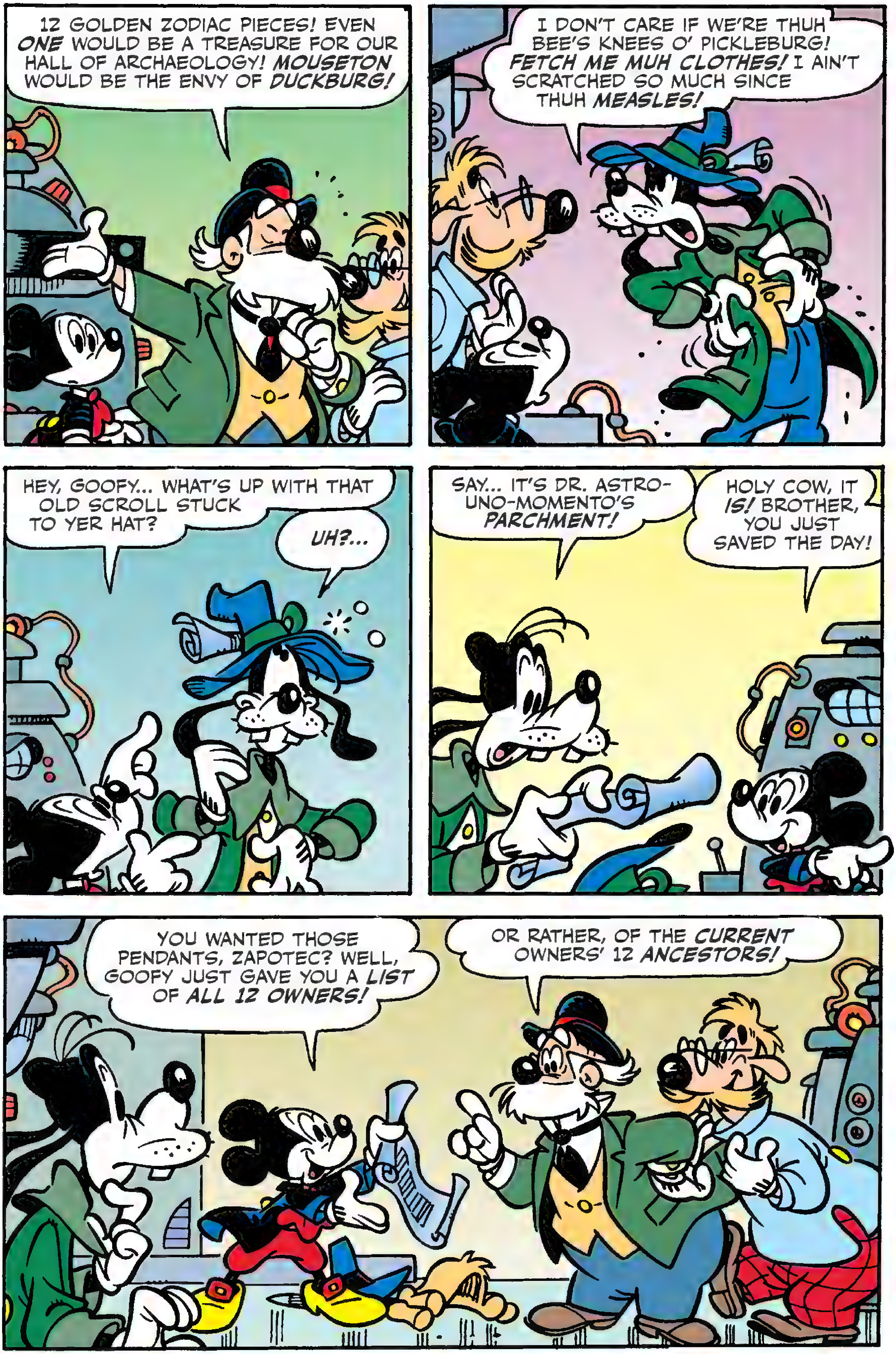

THE CHARM IS ASSYRIAN *AND* BABYLONIAN IN ORIGIN. YOU NEEDN'T WORRY *HOW* IT CAME INTO... ∋AHEM∈ *MY POSSESSION.*
ALL *YOU* NEED TO KNOW IS THAT ITS POWERS OF CLAIRVOYANCE AND FORTUNE ARE *UNDENIABLY* REAL!
I WILL *ALWAYS* KNOW *TOMORROW'S SECRETS* WITH THIS TALISMAN IN HAND!
AMAZING... THE STONE ACTUALLY *TELLS* ITS OWNER WHAT TO DO *NEXT?*
YES! FOR INSTANCE, I HAD THE FORESIGHT TO WRITE YOUR TWELVE *NAMES* ON THIS SCROLL–ONE NEXT TO EACH SIGN OF THE ZODIAC!
BEFORE EXPLAINING WHY, I'LL HANG THE SCROLL HERE.

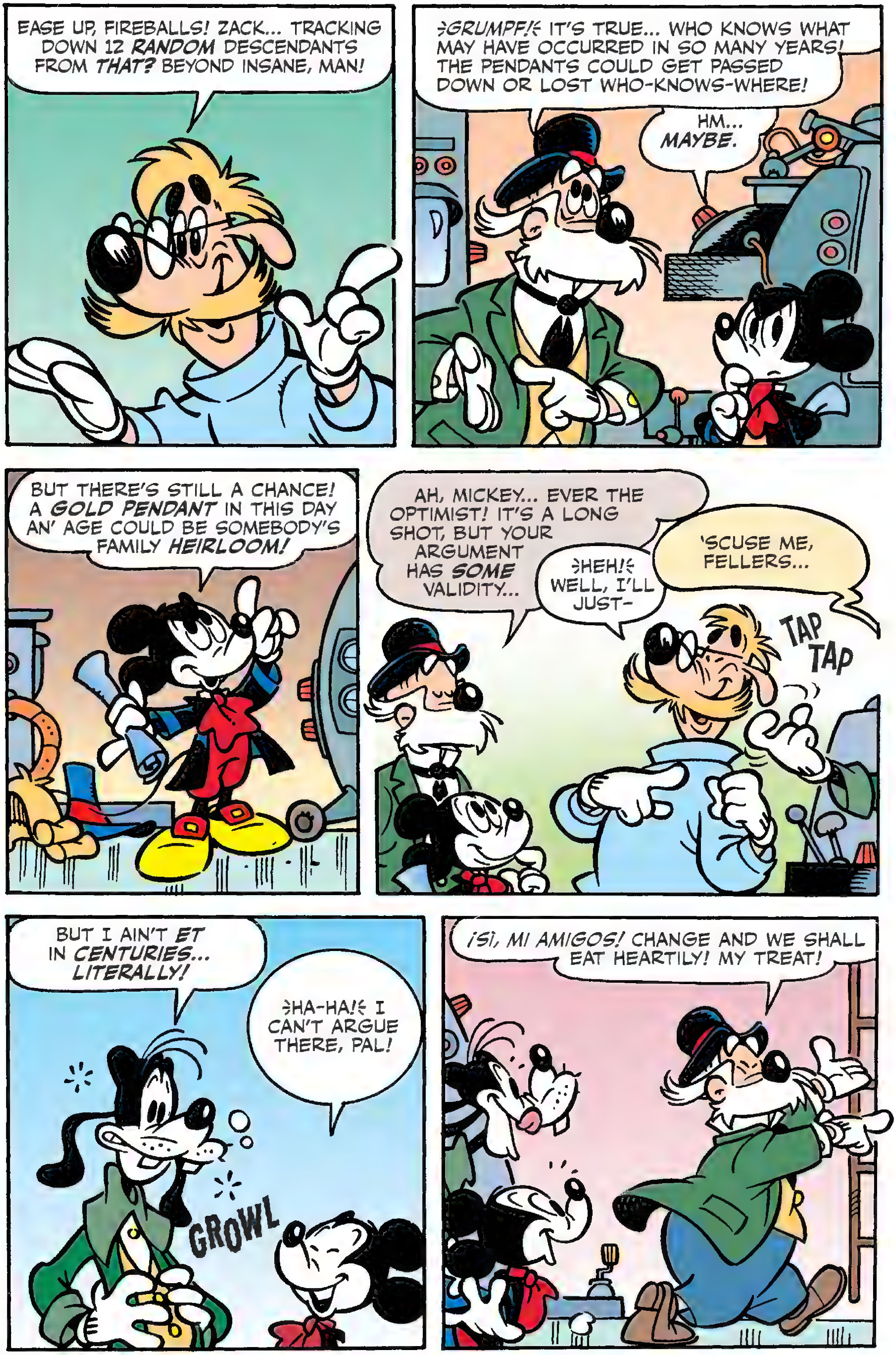

CONSIDER ENGLAND'S COLONIES! EACH IS A *PIECE;* TOGETHER THEY FORM AN *EMPIRE.* IN THE SAME WAY, THE *ZODIAC STONE* IS A *WHOLE* BUILT OF SMALLER *PIECES.*
IN THIS AGE OF LEARNING, EXPLORATION AND DANGER, YOU 12 MEN HAVE *SURVIVED,* PROVING YOURSELVES *OPEN-MINDED* TO THE BENEFITS OF THE *STARS!*
AS THE NEW WORLD BEGINS, I WANT YOU ALL TO TEACH *OTHERS* THE ART OF READING SIGNS AND HOROSCOPES... JUST AS *I* HAVE TAUGHT *YOU!*
TO EACH MAN, ONE ZODIAC STONE PIECE AS A *PENDANT.* KEEP THEM CLOSE TO YOUR HEARTS—THEN RETURN HERE IN A YEAR, THAT I MAY CHOOSE *MY SUCCESSOR.*
DOCTOR... NO. YOU'RE RETIRING?
YES... YOU MIGHT SAY THAT.
BUT I'LL BE FINE. ...BETTER TO ENTRUST THE PIECES TO MY STALWART STUDENTS...
GOBBA!

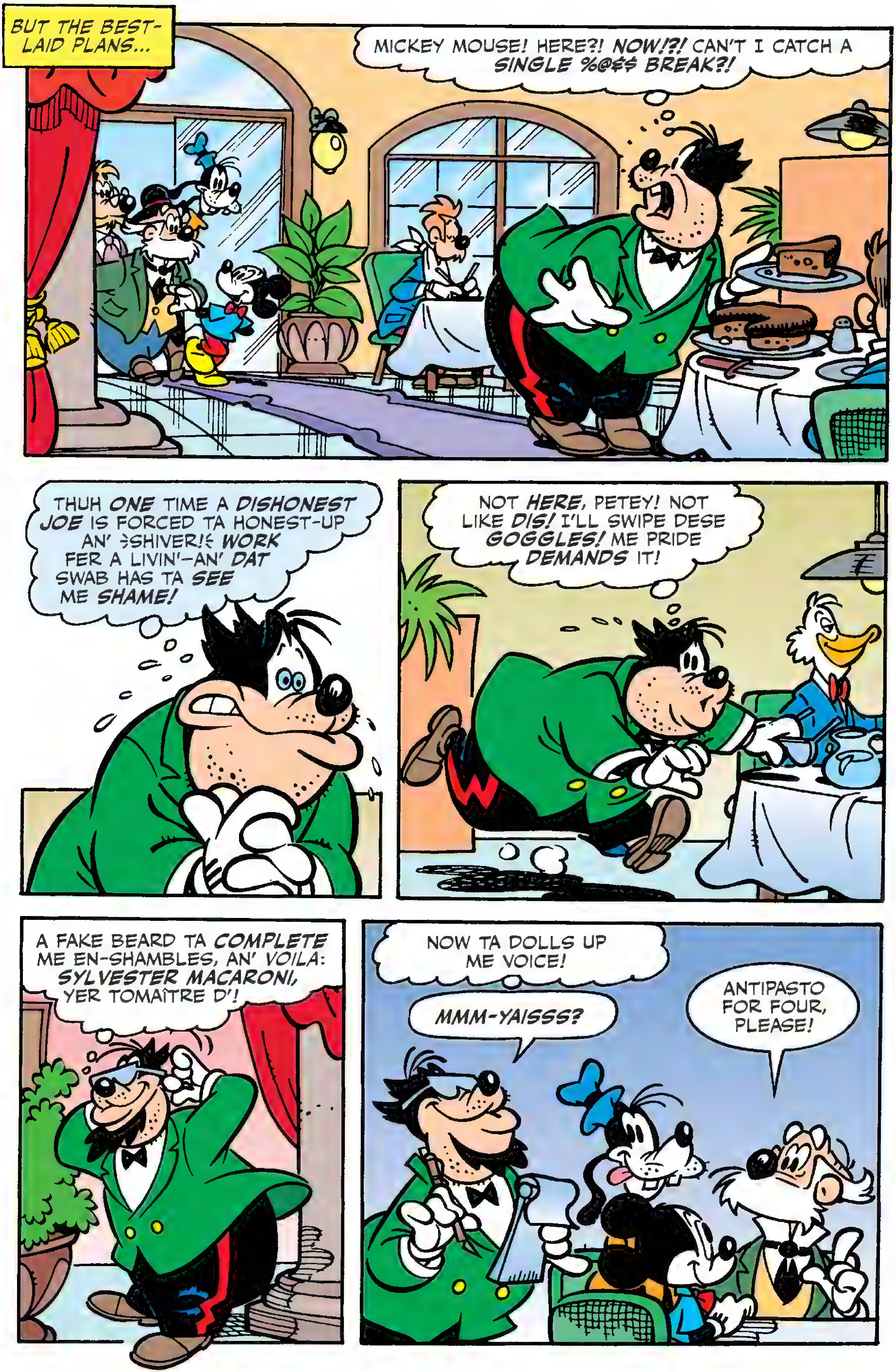

...THAN TO KEEP THE TWELVE ZODIAC SIGNS *TOGETHER* BEFORE WE *NEED* THEIR FULL POWER!
SHOO!
THERE IS A *RISK*... BUT FOR NOW WE SHOULD ALL BE SAFE TILL OUR REUNION!
HERE'S TO THE ZODIAC!
AAH...
NOW, TO OTHER–
WAH-CHOO!!!
HEH. *H-H'LO...* G-GOT ANY FORTUNE COOKIES? YES? NO? MAYBE SO?
BONK
INTRUDERS!! SPIES!!!
GET THEM!
WHUH-OH! LEAVE US NOT BE HASTY!

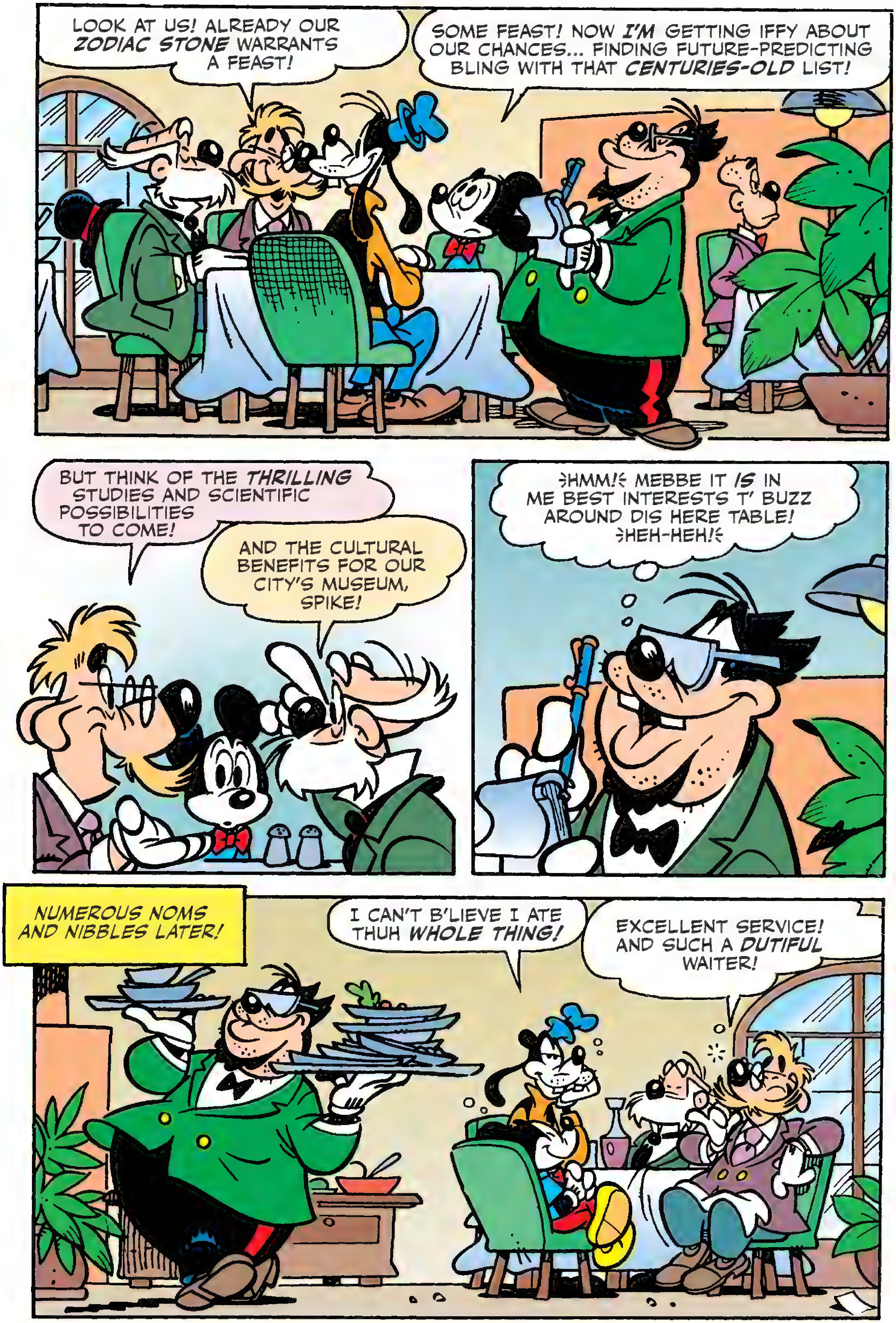

C'MON, *PROF. ZAPOTEC*... EXECUTE SOME PUNCTUALITY AND FAST US FORWARD!
ZERO HOUR! TIME'S UP–
?
HOT DOG! JUST LIKE CLOCKWO
POOF
CENTURIES IN A SECOND! MOUSETON MUSEUM'S TIME MACHINE CHAMBER: WHERE WE FIND *PROF. ZACHARY ZAPOTEC* WITH HIS FRIENDLY RIVAL, *DR. SPIKE MARLIN...*
¡SALUDOS AMIGOS!
ARE YOU AWARE THAT YOU SMELL LIKE A *BARN?*
DOC MARLIN, IF YOU ONLY KNEW!
AND THUS!
¡CARAMBA! MICKEY, THIS SCENE YOU HAVE WITNESSED... IT IS NOTHING SHORT OF *INCREDIBLE!*
GOSH...
SCRITCH SCRATCH
FOR *ONCE* I AGREE WITH YOU, ZACK! *NUTS* TO THE SETTLERS– *THIS* IS THE FIND OF THE *AGES!*
TACTLESS BUT *TRUE, HERMANO!*

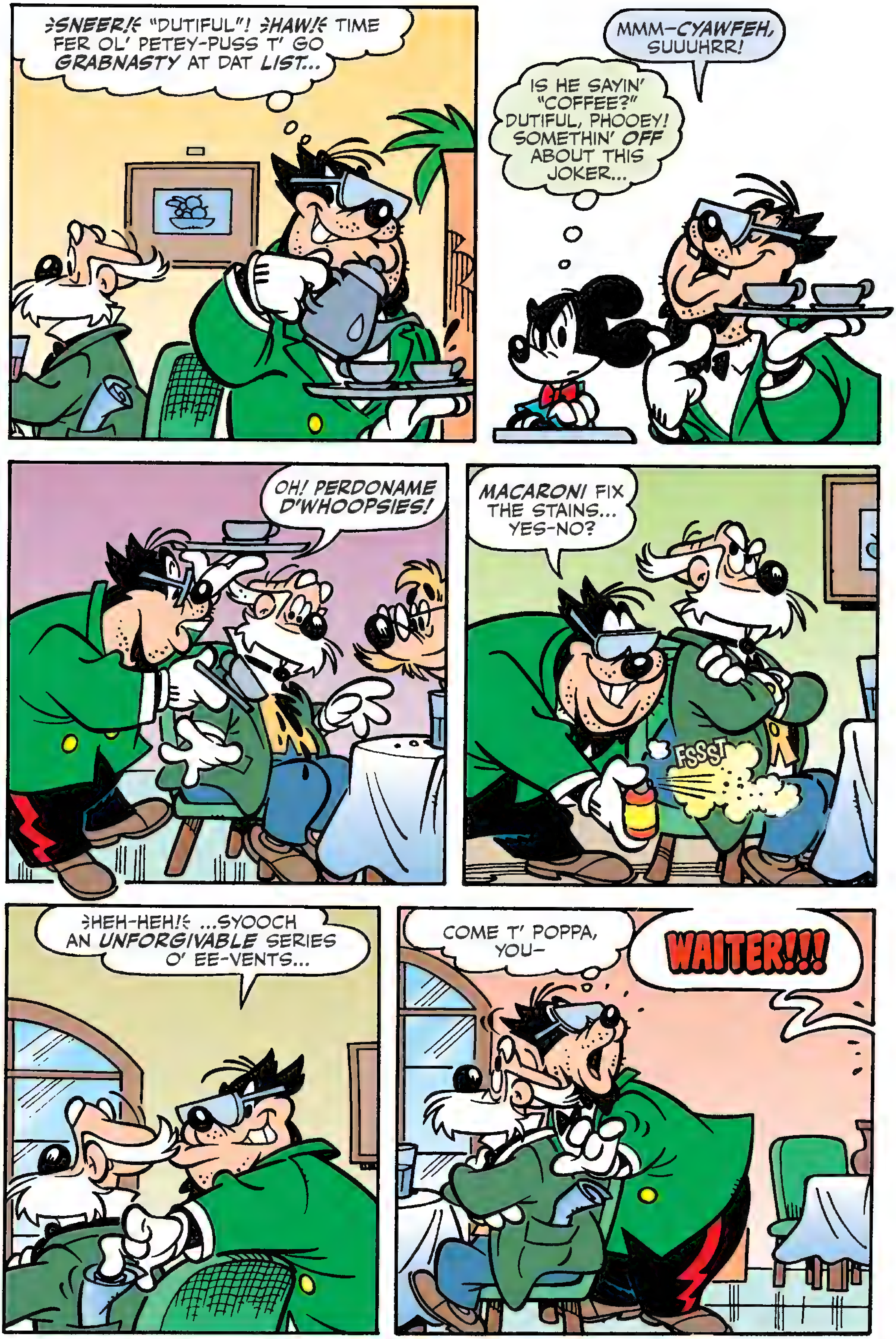

UP UNTIL NOW, *DR. ADAM ASTRONOMO* WAS THOUGHT TO BE AS *LEGENDARY* AS HIS ZODIAC STONE—IF NOT *MORE* SO!
HE'S REAL! THE STONE'S REAL! THE *LEGEND'S* REAL! *EEEEE!*
SIGH IT IS SAID—THAT ONE YEAR LATER, ALL 12 MEN *RETURNED* TO THE ROANOKE ISLAND BARN...
BUT THEY DID SO *WITHOUT* DR. ASTRONOMO! AFTER YOUR ENCOUNTER... HE WAS *NEVER SEEN AGAIN!*
GOLLY...
EVEN WORSE, WITH ASTRONOMO AND THE LOST COLONY GONE, THE ZODIAC SOCIETY MEMBERS *SCATTERED*—WE'RE NOT SURE *WHERE...*
ULP!
AND THE ZODIAC STONE *PENDANTS* WENT *WITH* 'EM, I BET!
¡SI! ALONG WITH THEIR IMMENSE, BUT UNUSED *POWER!*
DADBURNED ITCH!
SCRITCH SCRATCH
SCRATCH SCRITCH

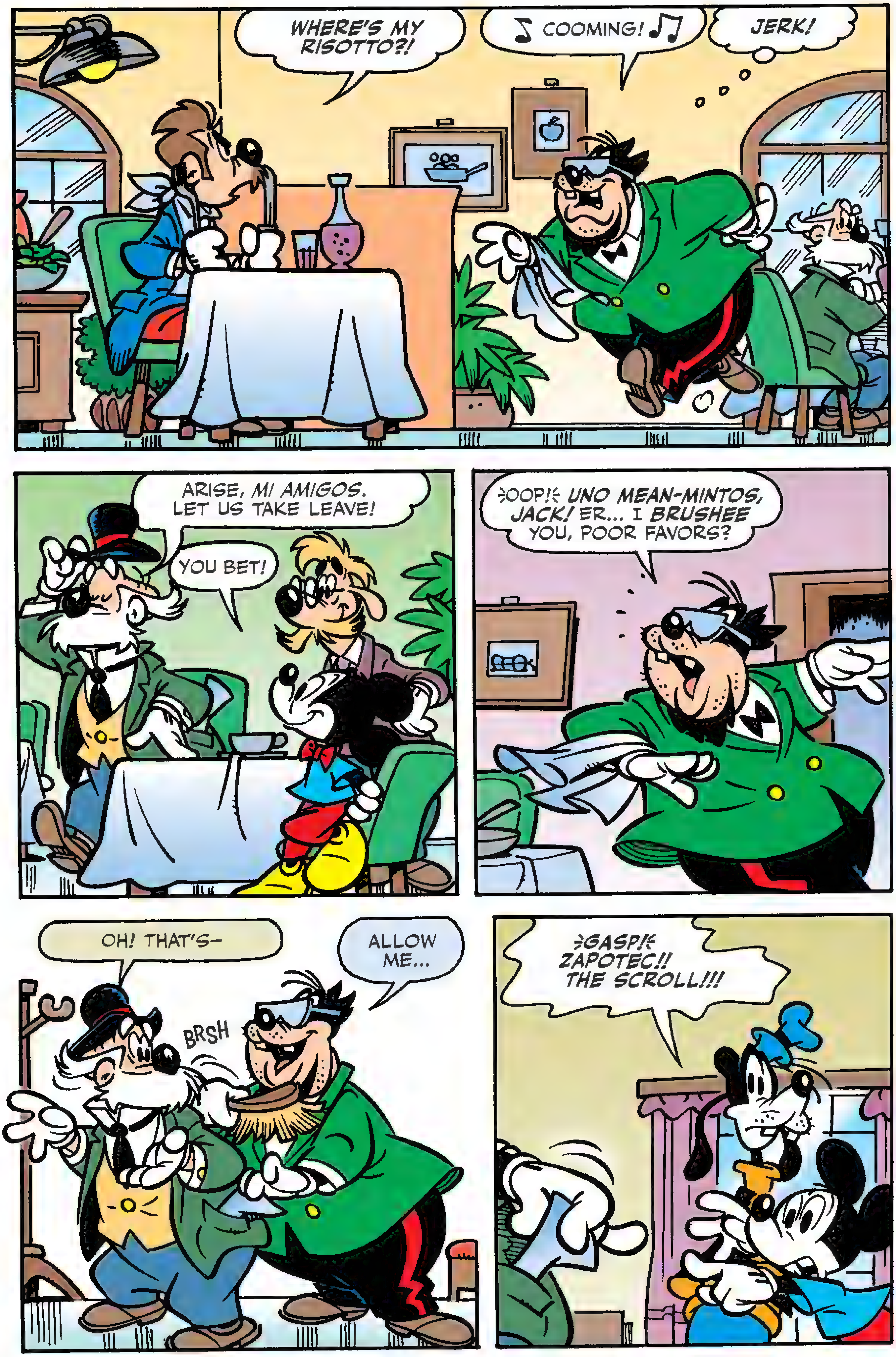

12 GOLDEN ZODIAC PIECES! EVEN *ONE* WOULD BE A TREASURE FOR OUR HALL OF ARCHAEOLOGY! *MOUSETON* WOULD BE THE ENVY OF *DUCKBURG!*
I DON'T CARE IF WE'RE THUH BEE'S KNEES O' PICKLEBURG! *FETCH ME MUH CLOTHES!* I AIN'T SCRATCHED SO MUCH SINCE THUH *MEASLES!*
HEY, GOOFY... WHAT'S UP WITH THAT OLD SCROLL STUCK TO YER HAT?
UH?...
SAY... IT'S DR. ASTRO-UNO-MOMENTO'S *PARCHMENT!*
HOLY COW, IT *IS!* BROTHER, YOU JUST SAVED THE DAY!
YOU WANTED THOSE PENDANTS, ZAPOTEC? WELL, GOOFY JUST GAVE YOU A *LIST* OF *ALL 12 OWNERS!*
OR RATHER, OF THE *CURRENT* OWNERS' 12 *ANCESTORS!*

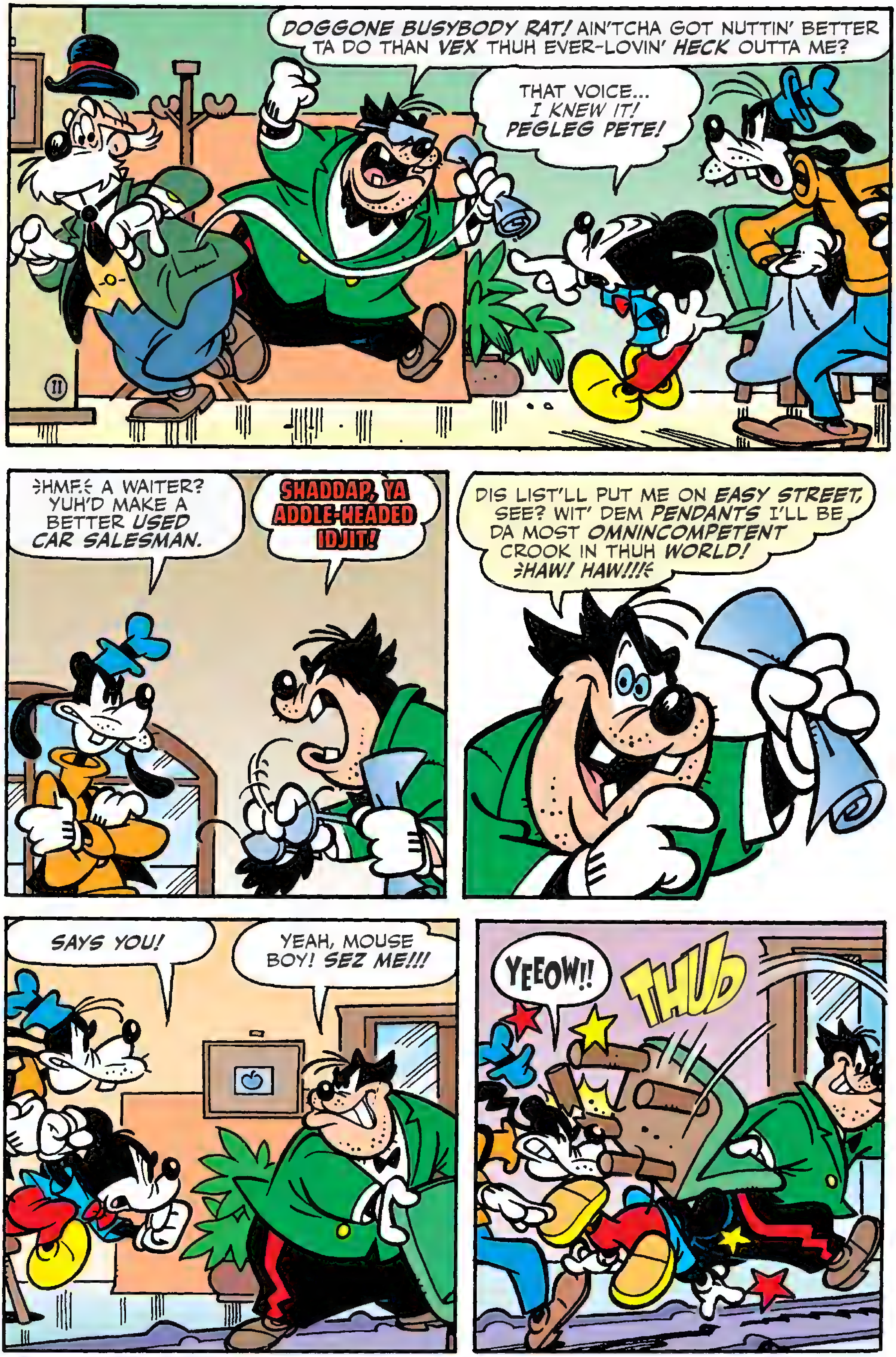

EASE UP, FIREBALLS! ZACK... TRACKING DOWN 12 *RANDOM* DESCENDANTS FROM *THAT?* BEYOND INSANE, MAN!
GRUMPF! IT'S TRUE... WHO KNOWS WHAT MAY HAVE OCCURRED IN SO MANY YEARS! THE PENDANTS COULD GET PASSED DOWN OR LOST WHO-KNOWS-WHERE!
HM... *MAYBE.*
BUT THERE'S STILL A CHANCE! A *GOLD PENDANT* IN THIS DAY AN' AGE COULD BE SOMEBODY'S FAMILY *HEIRLOOM!*
AH, MICKEY... EVER THE OPTIMIST! IT'S A LONG SHOT, BUT YOUR ARGUMENT HAS *SOME* VALIDITY...
HEH! WELL, I'LL JUST-
'SCUSE ME, FELLERS...
TAP TAP
BUT I AIN'T *ET* IN *CENTURIES... LITERALLY!*
HA-HA! I CAN'T ARGUE THERE, PAL!
GROWL
¡SÍ, MI AMIGOS! CHANGE AND WE SHALL EAT HEARTILY! MY TREAT!

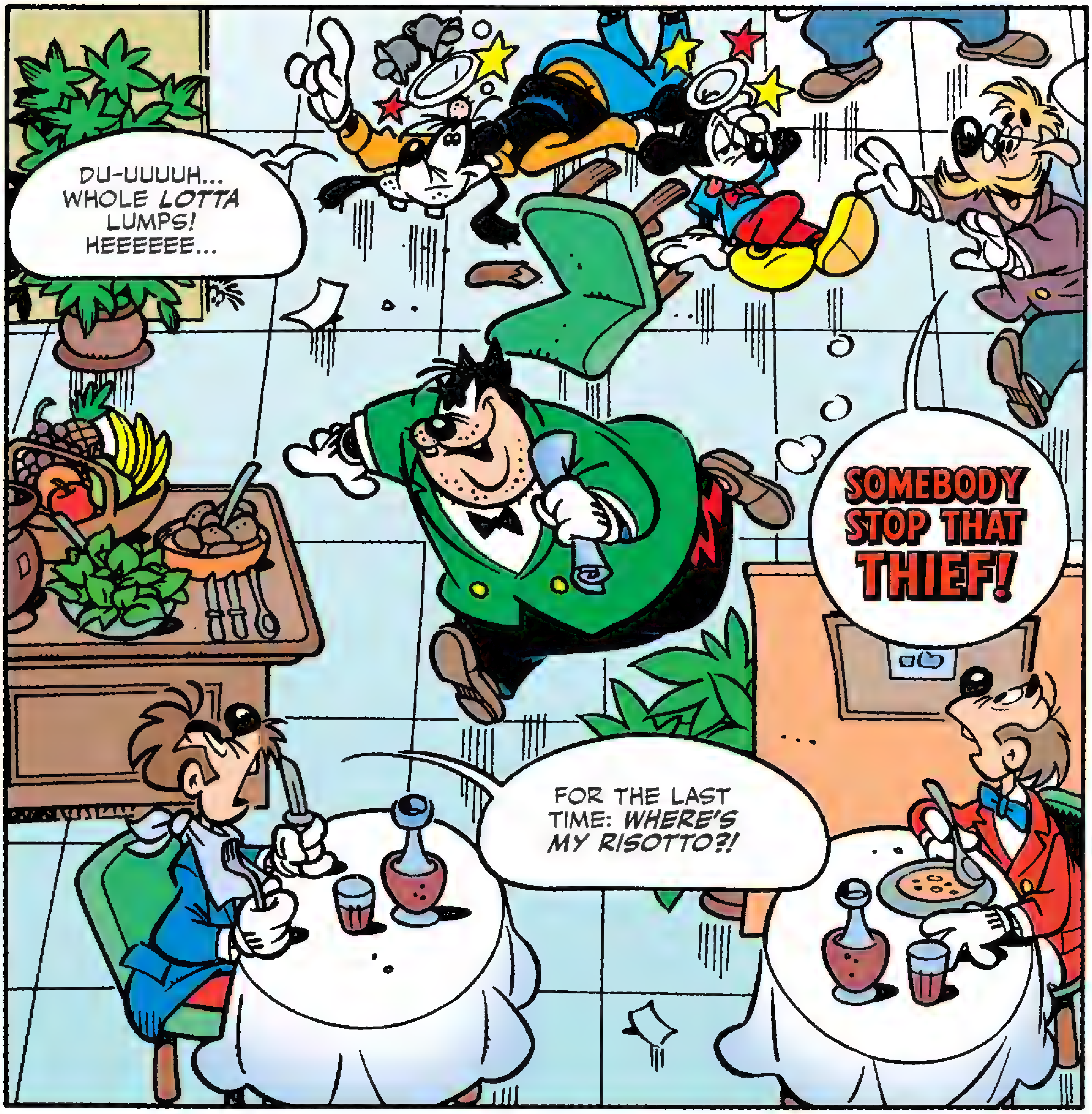

BUT THE BEST-LAID PLANS...
MICKEY MOUSE! HERE?! NOW!?! CAN'T I CATCH A SINGLE %@$$ BREAK?!
THUH ONE TIME A DISHONEST JOE IS FORCED TA HONEST-UP AN' ~SHIVER!~ WORK FER A LIVIN'–AN' DAT SWAB HAS TA SEE ME SHAME!
NOT HERE, PETEY! NOT LIKE DIS! I'LL SWIPE DESE GOGGLES! ME PRIDE DEMANDS IT!
A FAKE BEARD TA COMPLETE ME EN-SHAMBLES, AN' VOILA: SYLVESTER MACARONI, YER TOMAÎTRE D'!
NOW TA DOLLS UP ME VOICE!
MMM-YAISSS?
ANTIPASTO FOR FOUR, PLEASE!

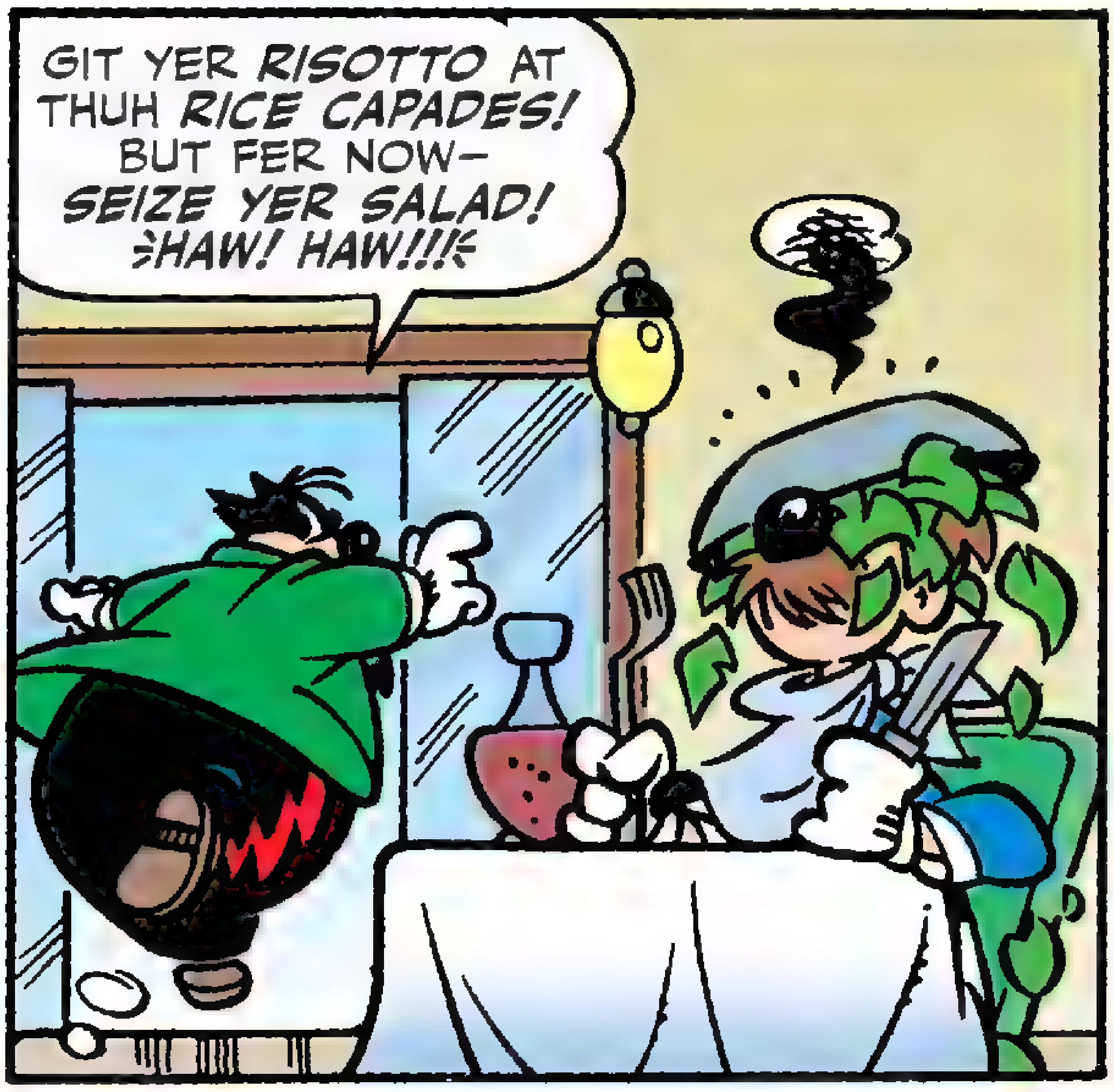

LOOK AT US! ALREADY OUR *ZODIAC STONE* WARRANTS A FEAST!
SOME FEAST! NOW *I'M* GETTING IFFY ABOUT OUR CHANCES... FINDING FUTURE-PREDICTING BLING WITH THAT *CENTURIES-OLD* LIST!
BUT THINK OF THE *THRILLING* STUDIES AND SCIENTIFIC POSSIBILITIES TO COME!
AND THE CULTURAL BENEFITS FOR OUR CITY'S MUSEUM, SPIKE!
⁓HMM!⁓ MEBBE IT *IS* IN ME BEST INTERESTS T' BUZZ AROUND DIS HERE TABLE! ⁓HEH-HEH!⁓
NUMEROUS NOMS AND NIBBLES LATER!
I CAN'T B'LIEVE I ATE THUH *WHOLE THING!*
EXCELLENT SERVICE! AND SUCH A *DUTIFUL* WAITER!

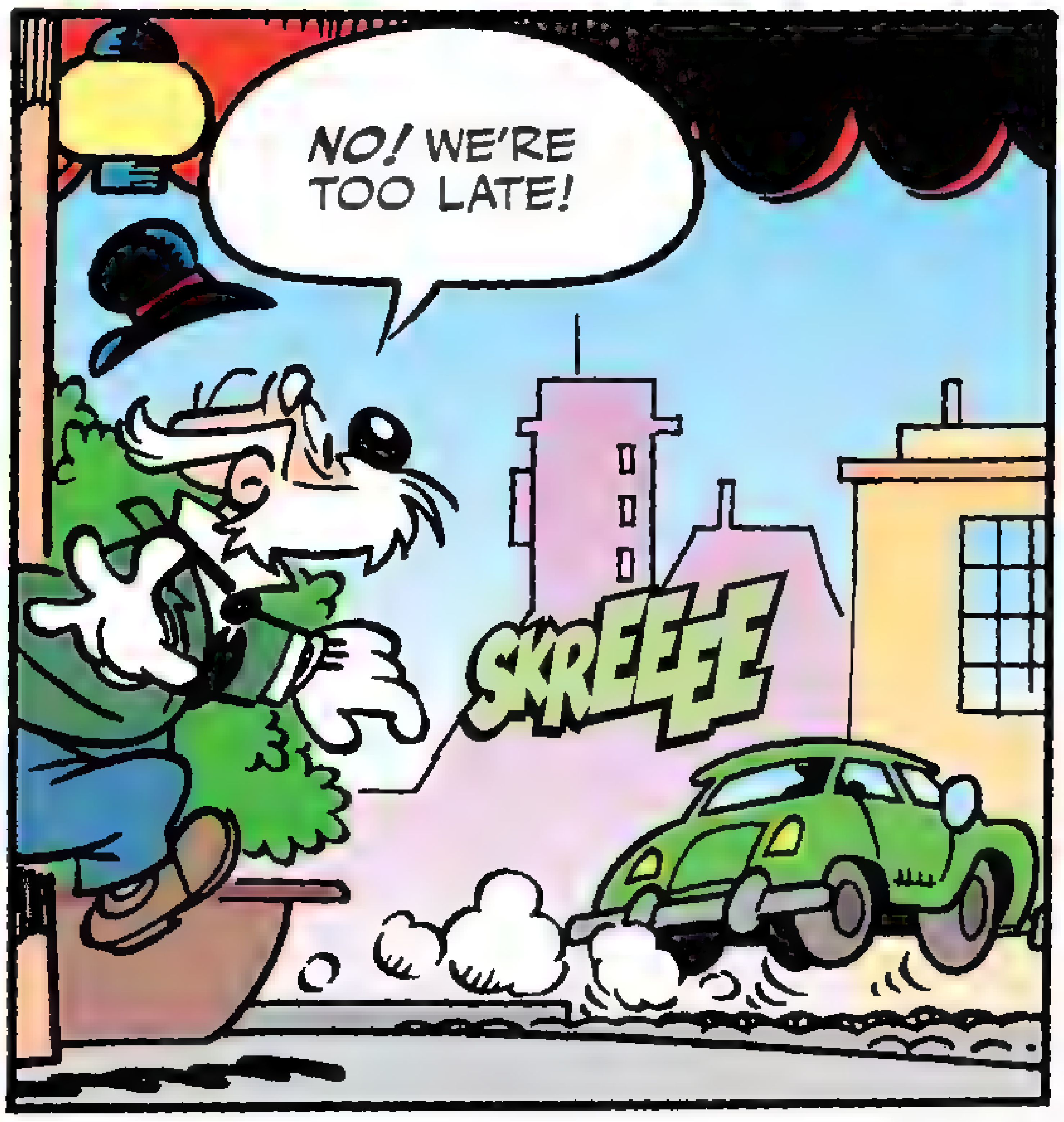

≯SNEER!≮ "DUTIFUL"! ≯HAW!≮ TIME FER OL' PETEY-PUSS T' GO GRABNASTY AT DAT LIST...
MMM—CYAWFEH, SUUUHRR!
IS HE SAYIN' "COFFEE?" DUTIFUL, PHOOEY! SOMETHIN' OFF ABOUT THIS JOKER...
OH! PERDONAME D'WHOOPSIES!
MACARONI FIX THE STAINS... YES-NO?
FSSST
≯HEH-HEH!≮ ...SYOOCH AN UNFORGIVABLE SERIES O' EE-VENTS...
COME T' POPPA, YOU—
WAITER!!!

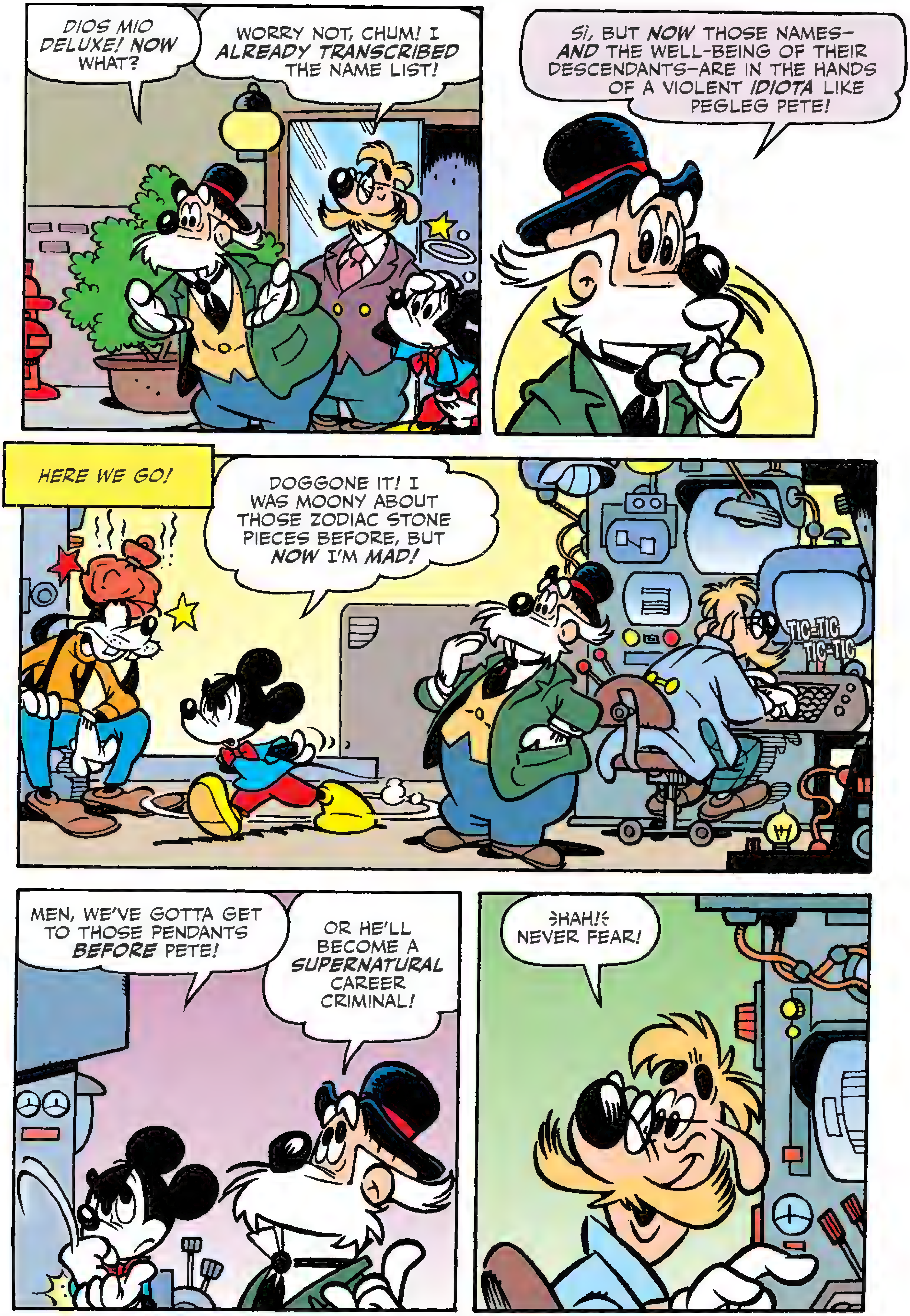

WHERE'S MY RISOTTO?!
♪ COOMING! ♫
JERK!
ARISE, MI AMIGOS. LET US TAKE LEAVE!
YOU BET!
OOP! UNO MEAN-MINTOS, JACK! ER... I BRUSHEE YOU, POOR FAVORS?
OH! THAT'S–
ALLOW ME...
BRSH
GASP! ZAPOTEC!! THE SCROLL!!!

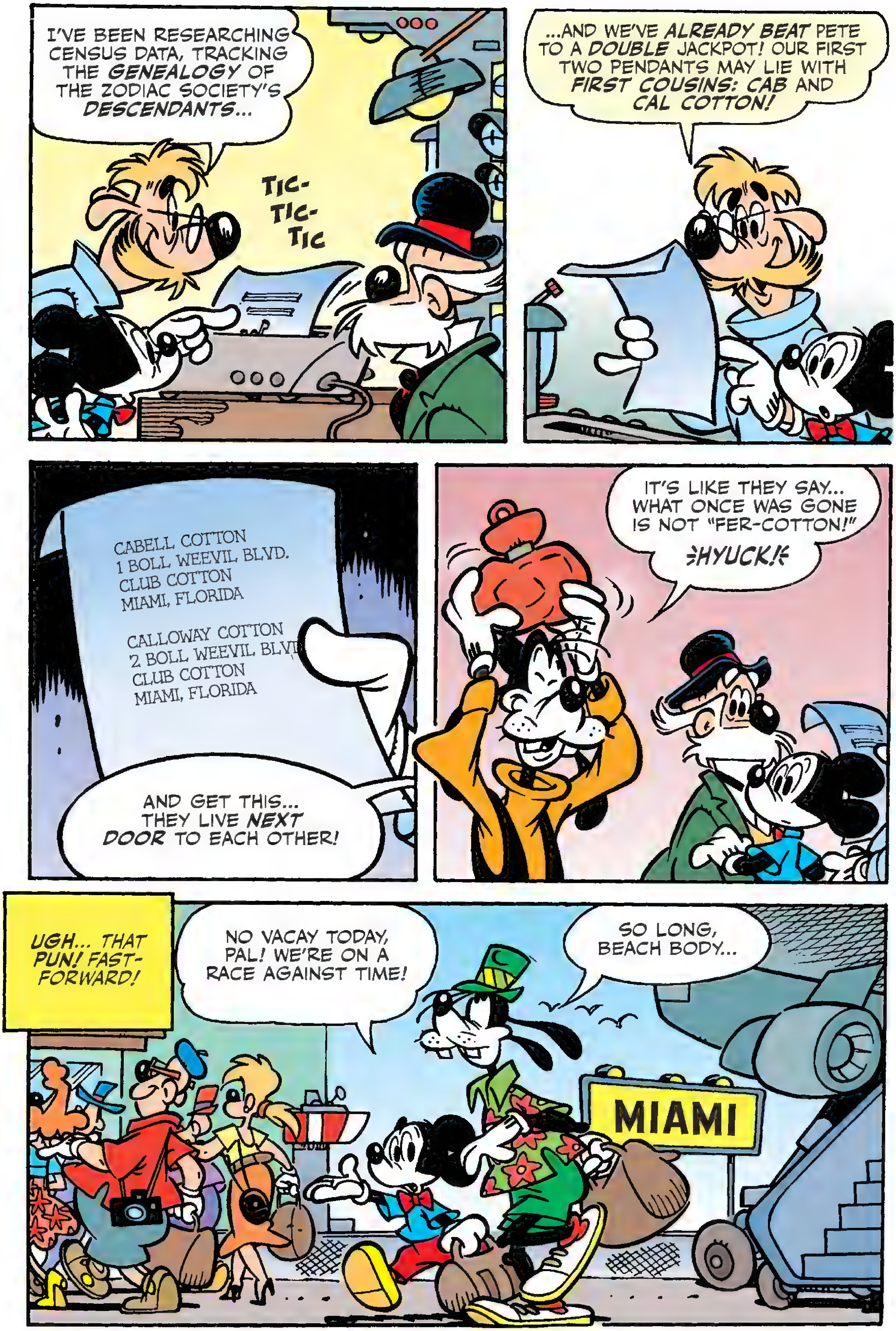

DOGGONE BUSYBODY RAT! AIN'TCHA GOT NUTTIN' BETTER TA DO THAN VEX THUH EVER-LOVIN' HECK OUTTA ME?
THAT VOICE... I KNEW IT! PEGLEG PETE!
11
HMF. A WAITER? YUH'D MAKE A BETTER USED CAR SALESMAN.
SHADDAP, YA ADDLE-HEADED IDJIT!
DIS LIST'LL PUT ME ON EASY STREET, SEE? WIT' DEM PENDANTS I'LL BE DA MOST OMNINCOMPETENT CROOK IN THUH WORLD! HAW! HAW!!!
SAYS YOU!
YEAH, MOUSE BOY! SEZ ME!!!
YEEOW!!
THUD

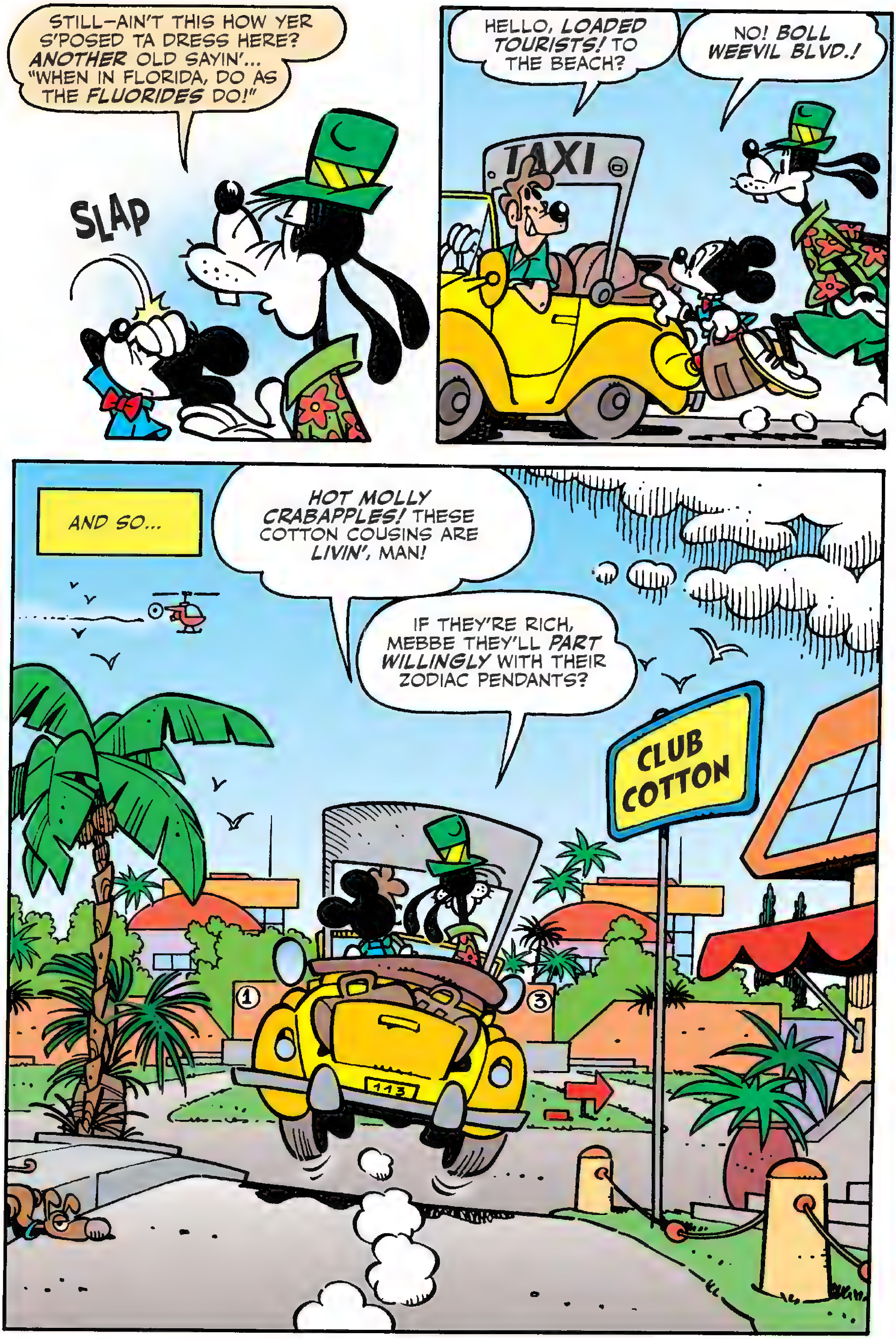

DU-UUUUH... WHOLE *LOTTA* LUMPS! HEEEEEEE...
SOMEBODY STOP THAT THIEF!
FOR THE LAST TIME: *WHERE'S MY RISOTTO?!*

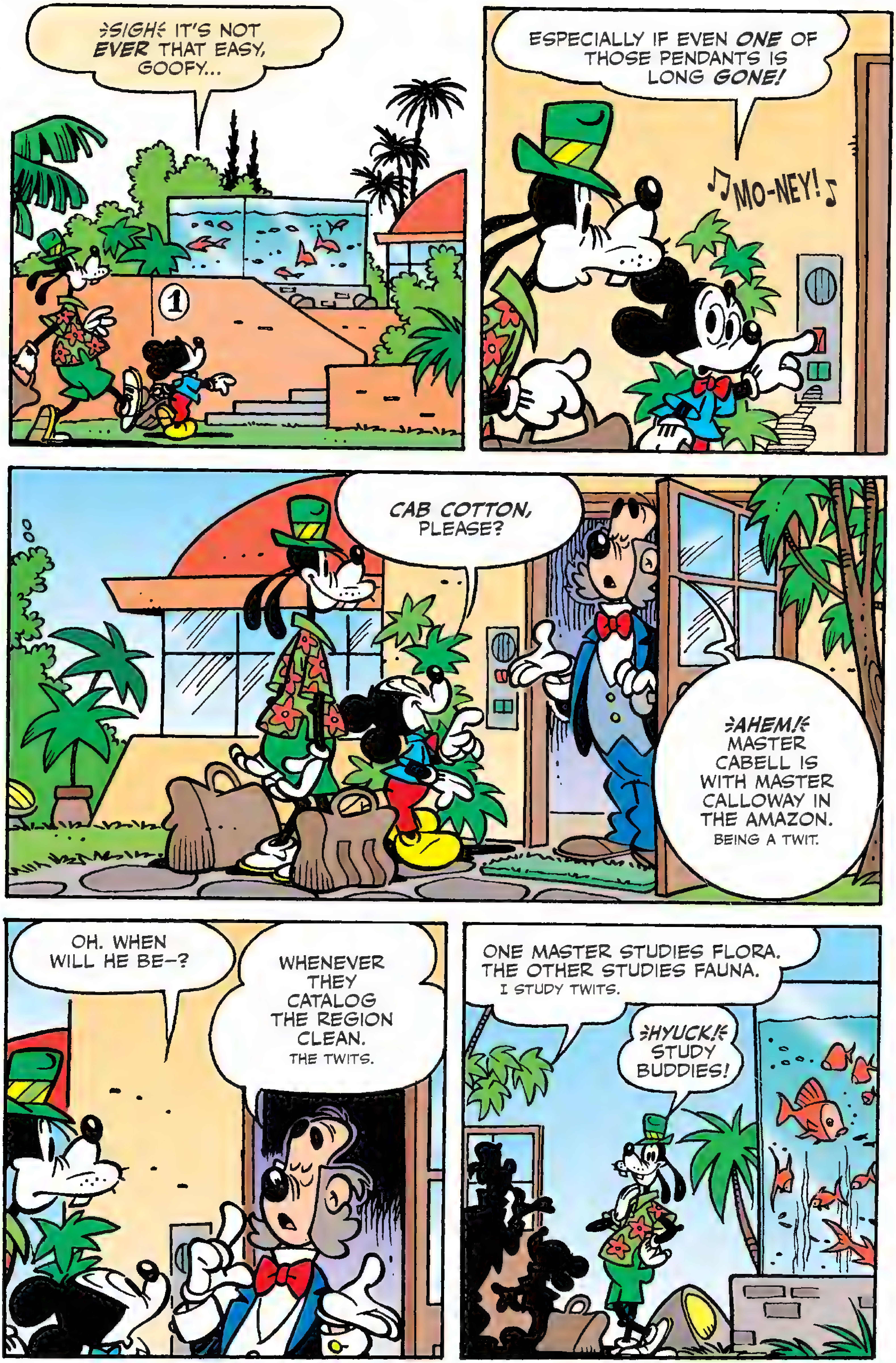

GIT YER *RISOTTO* AT THUH *RICE CAPADES!* BUT FER NOW– *SEIZE YER SALAD! HAW! HAW!!!*

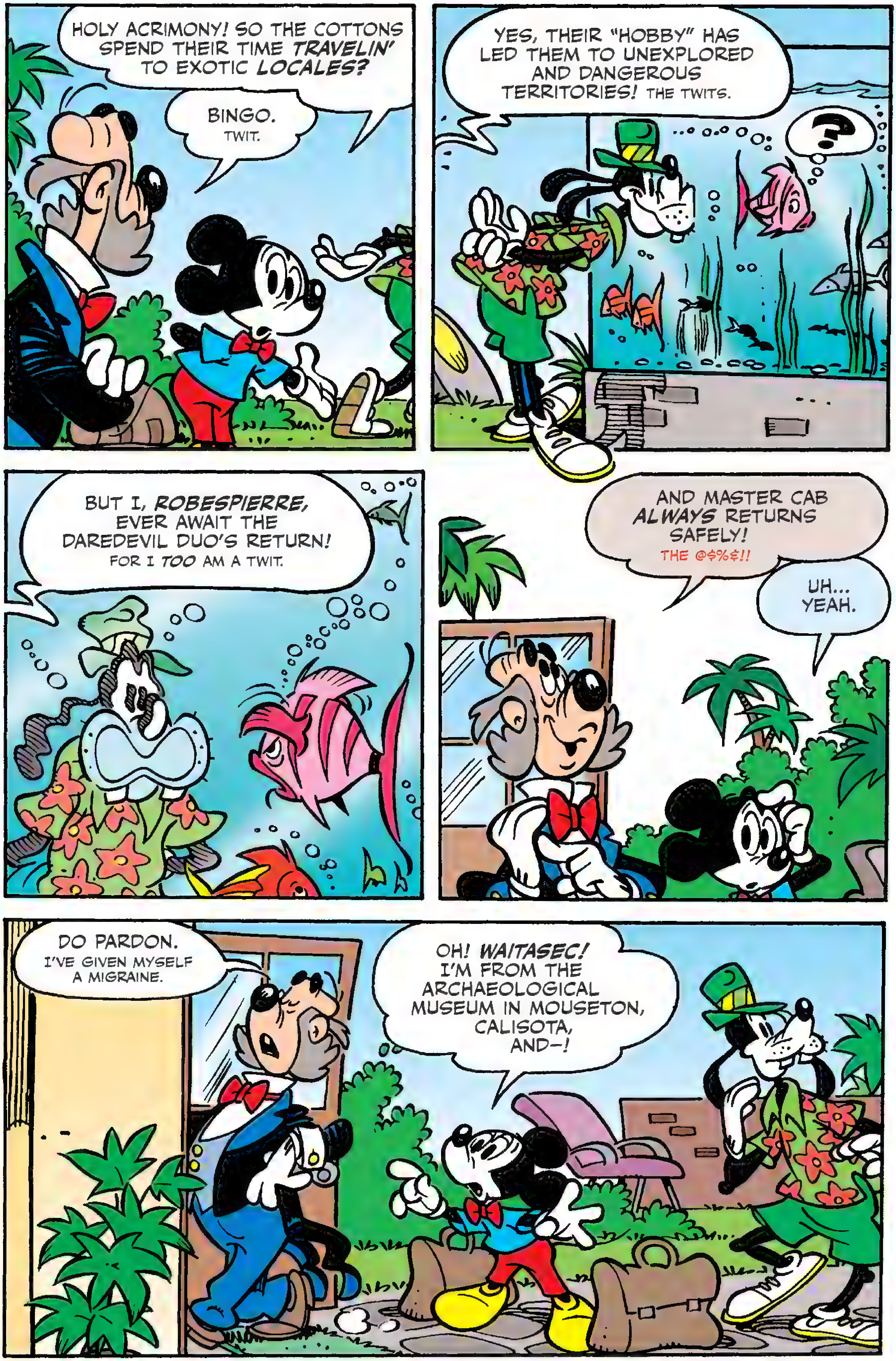

NO! WE'RE TOO LATE!
SKREEEE

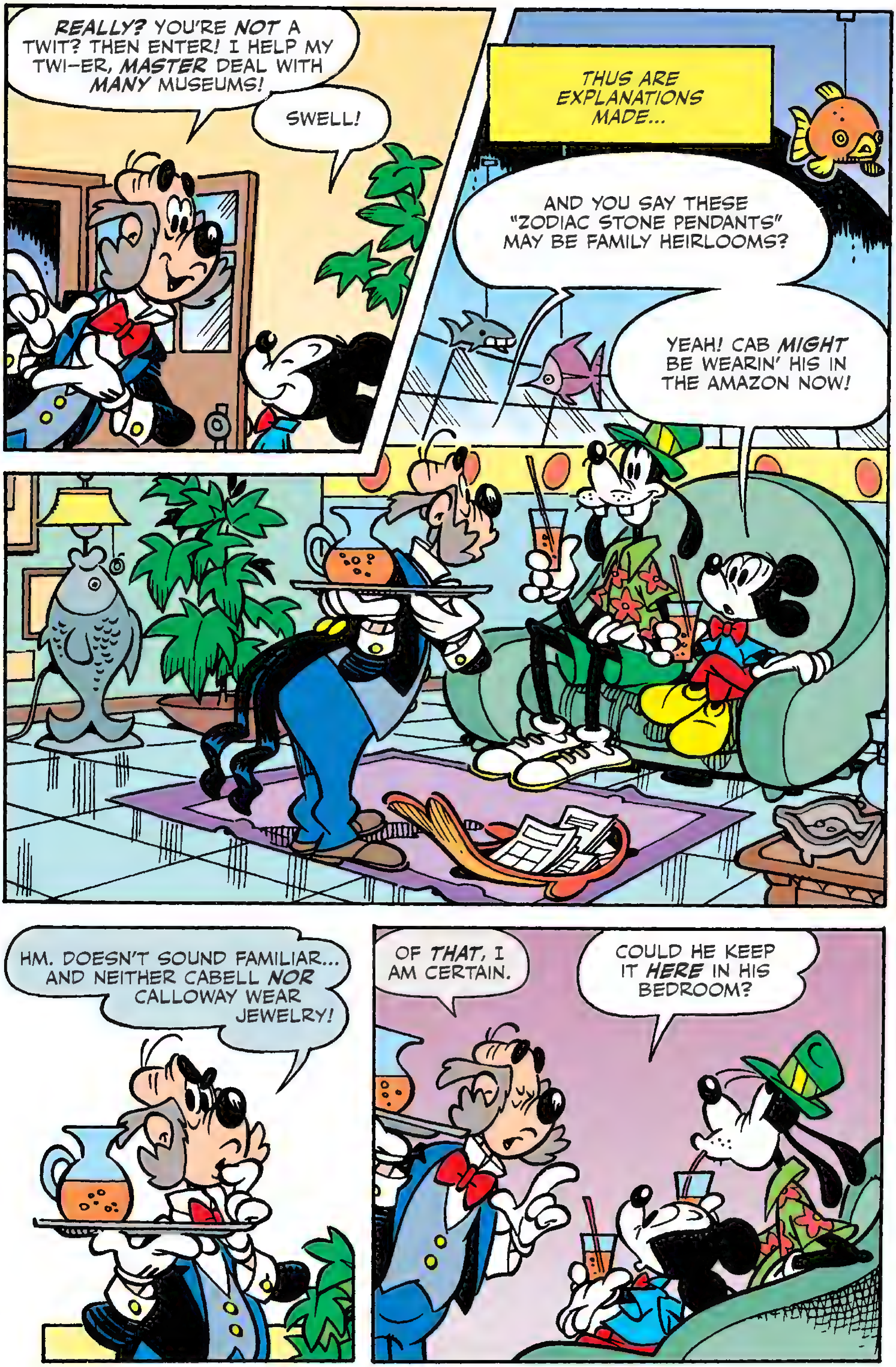

DIOS MIO DELUXE! NOW WHAT?
WORRY NOT, CHUM! I ALREADY TRANSCRIBED THE NAME LIST!
SÍ, BUT NOW THOSE NAMES–AND THE WELL-BEING OF THEIR DESCENDANTS–ARE IN THE HANDS OF A VIOLENT IDIOTA LIKE PEGLEG PETE!
HERE WE GO!
DOGGONE IT! I WAS MOONY ABOUT THOSE ZODIAC STONE PIECES BEFORE, BUT NOW I'M MAD!
TIC-TIC
TIC-TIC
MEN, WE'VE GOTTA GET TO THOSE PENDANTS BEFORE PETE!
OR HE'LL BECOME A SUPERNATURAL CAREER CRIMINAL!
HAH! NEVER FEAR!

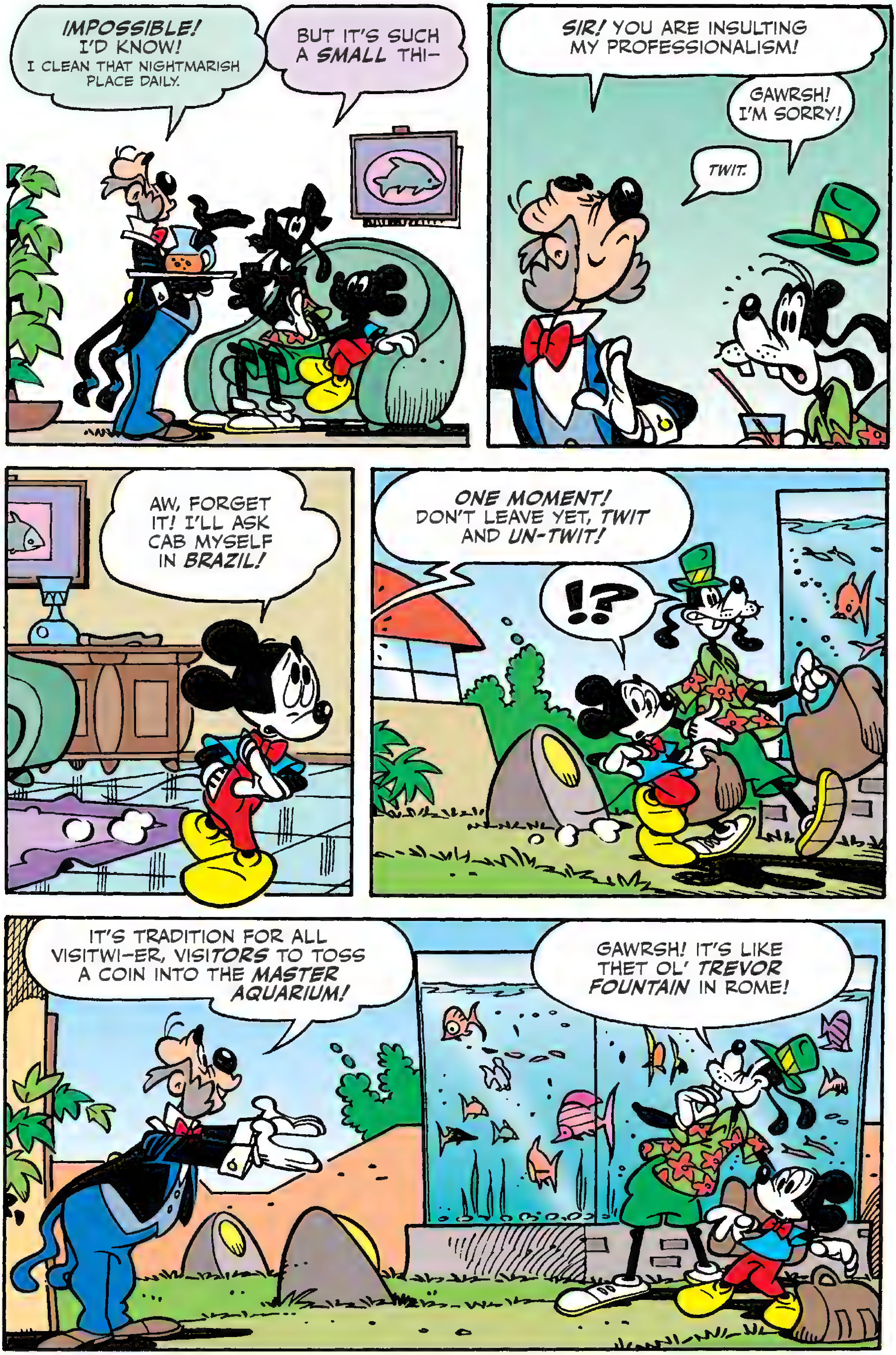

I'VE BEEN RESEARCHING CENSUS DATA, TRACKING THE *GENEALOGY* OF THE ZODIAC SOCIETY'S *DESCENDANTS*...
TIC-TIC-TIC
...AND WE'VE *ALREADY BEAT* PETE TO A *DOUBLE* JACKPOT! OUR FIRST TWO PENDANTS MAY LIE WITH *FIRST COUSINS: CAB* AND *CAL COTTON!*
CABELL COTTON
1 BOLL WEEVIL BLVD.
CLUB COTTON
MIAMI, FLORIDA
CALLOWAY COTTON
2 BOLL WEEVIL BLVD.
CLUB COTTON
MIAMI, FLORIDA
AND GET THIS... THEY LIVE *NEXT DOOR* TO EACH OTHER!
IT'S LIKE THEY SAY... WHAT ONCE WAS GONE IS NOT "FER-COTTON!" *HYUCK!*
UGH... THAT PUN! FAST-FORWARD!
NO VACAY TODAY, PAL! WE'RE ON A RACE AGAINST TIME!
SO LONG, BEACH BODY...
MIAMI

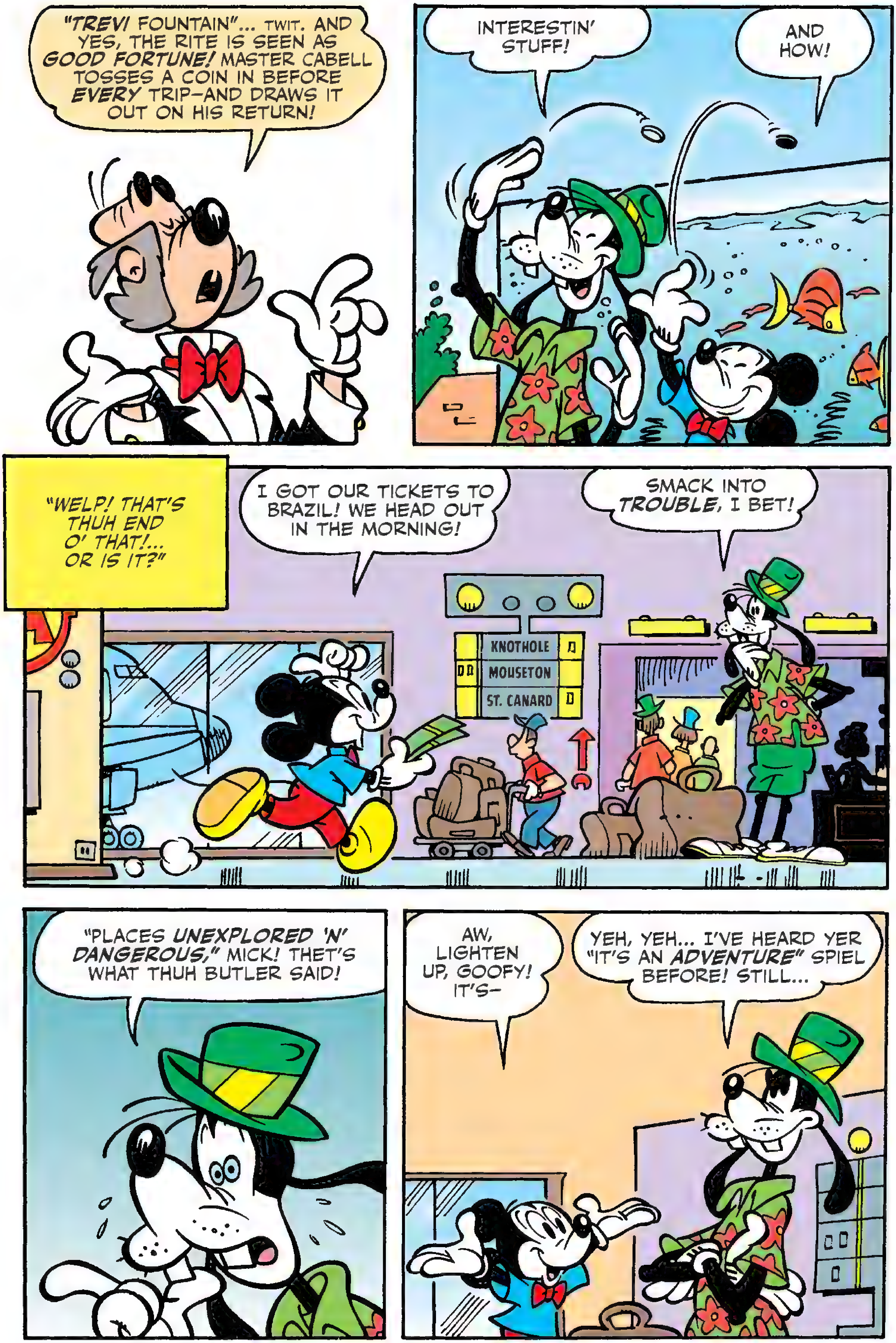

STILL—AIN'T THIS HOW YER S'POSED TA DRESS HERE? *ANOTHER* OLD SAYIN'... "WHEN IN FLORIDA, DO AS THE *FLUORIDES* DO!"
SLAP
HELLO, *LOADED TOURISTS!* TO THE BEACH?
TAXI
NO! *BOLL WEEVIL BLVD.!*
AND SO...
HOT MOLLY CRABAPPLES! THESE COTTON COUSINS ARE *LIVIN'*, MAN!
IF THEY'RE RICH, MEBBE THEY'LL *PART WILLINGLY* WITH THEIR ZODIAC PENDANTS?
CLUB COTTON
1
3
113

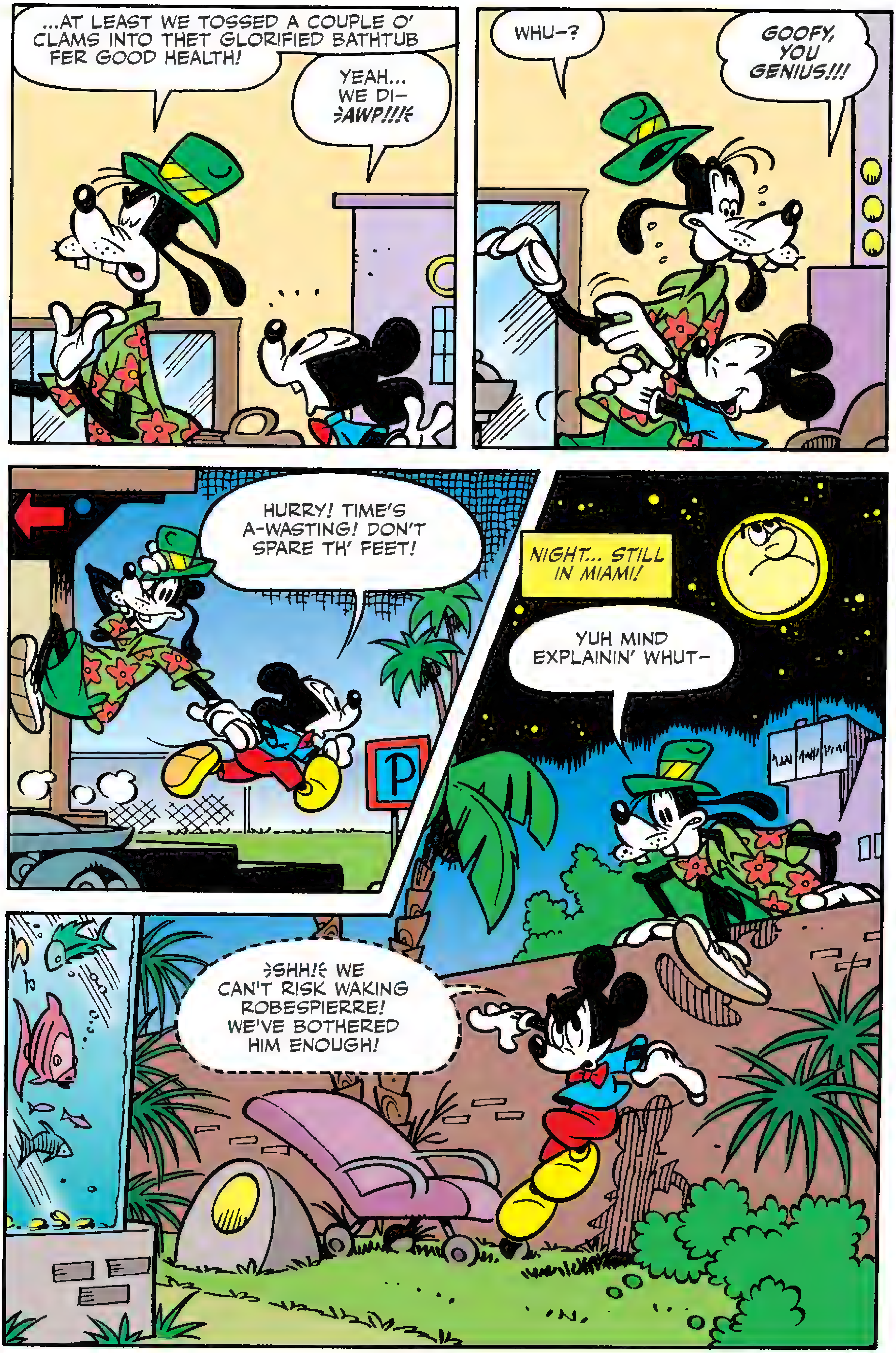

⋟SIGH⋞ IT'S NOT EVER THAT EASY, GOOFY...
①
ESPECIALLY IF EVEN ONE OF THOSE PENDANTS IS LONG GONE!
♫MO-NEY!♪
CAB COTTON, PLEASE?
⋟AHEM!⋞ MASTER CABELL IS WITH MASTER CALLOWAY IN THE AMAZON. BEING A TWIT.
OH. WHEN WILL HE BE--?
WHENEVER THEY CATALOG THE REGION CLEAN. THE TWITS.
ONE MASTER STUDIES FLORA. THE OTHER STUDIES FAUNA. I STUDY TWITS.
⋟HYUCK!⋞ STUDY BUDDIES!

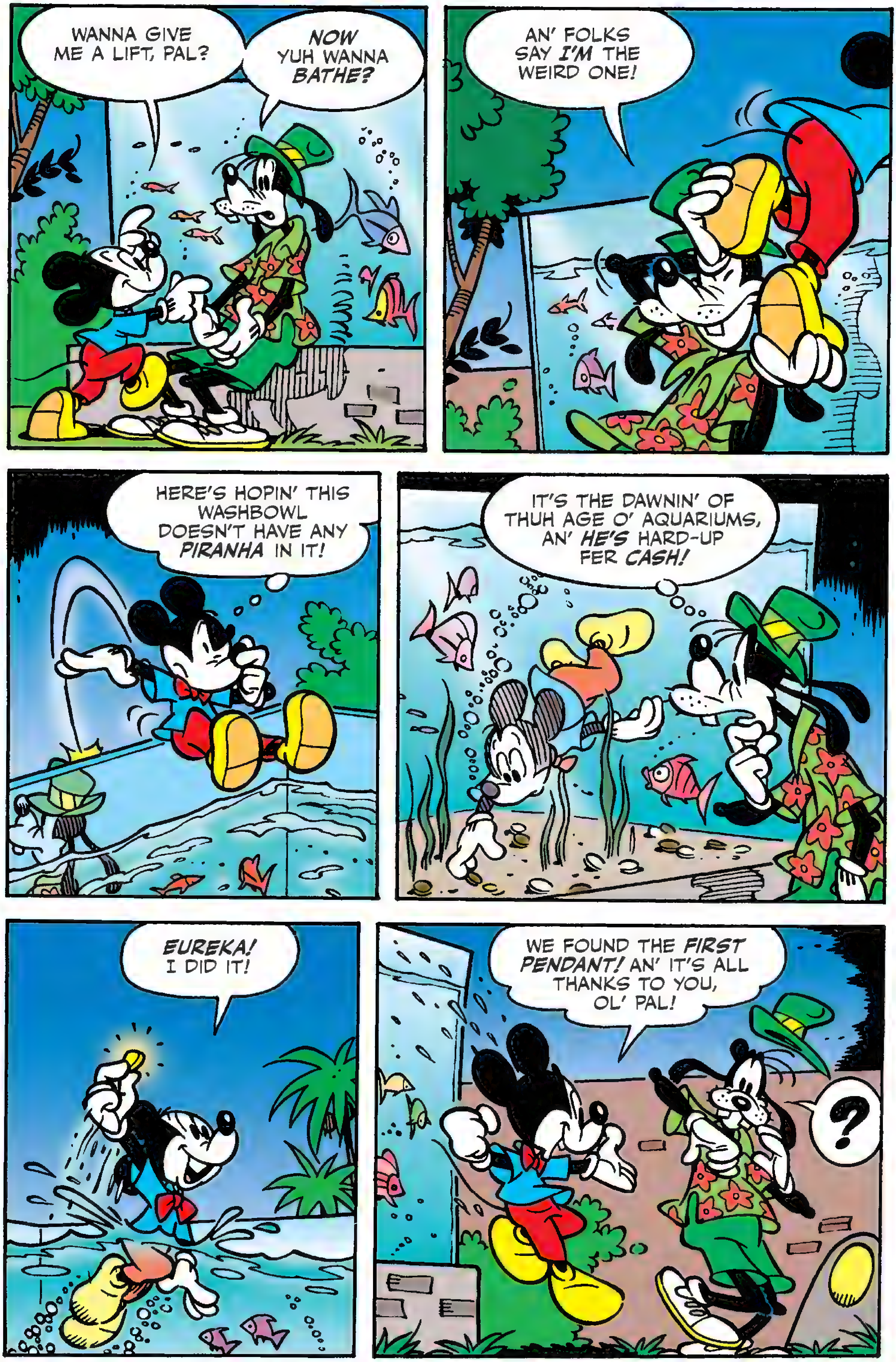

HOLY ACRIMONY! SO THE COTTONS SPEND THEIR TIME *TRAVELIN'* TO EXOTIC *LOCALES?*
BINGO. TWIT.
YES, THEIR "HOBBY" HAS LED THEM TO UNEXPLORED AND DANGEROUS TERRITORIES! THE TWITS.
?
BUT I, *ROBESPIERRE,* EVER AWAIT THE DAREDEVIL DUO'S RETURN! FOR I *TOO* AM A TWIT.
AND MASTER CAB *ALWAYS* RETURNS SAFELY! THE @$%$!!
UH... YEAH.
DO PARDON. I'VE GIVEN MYSELF A MIGRAINE.
OH! *WAITASEC!* I'M FROM THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM IN MOUSETON, CALISOTA, AND—!

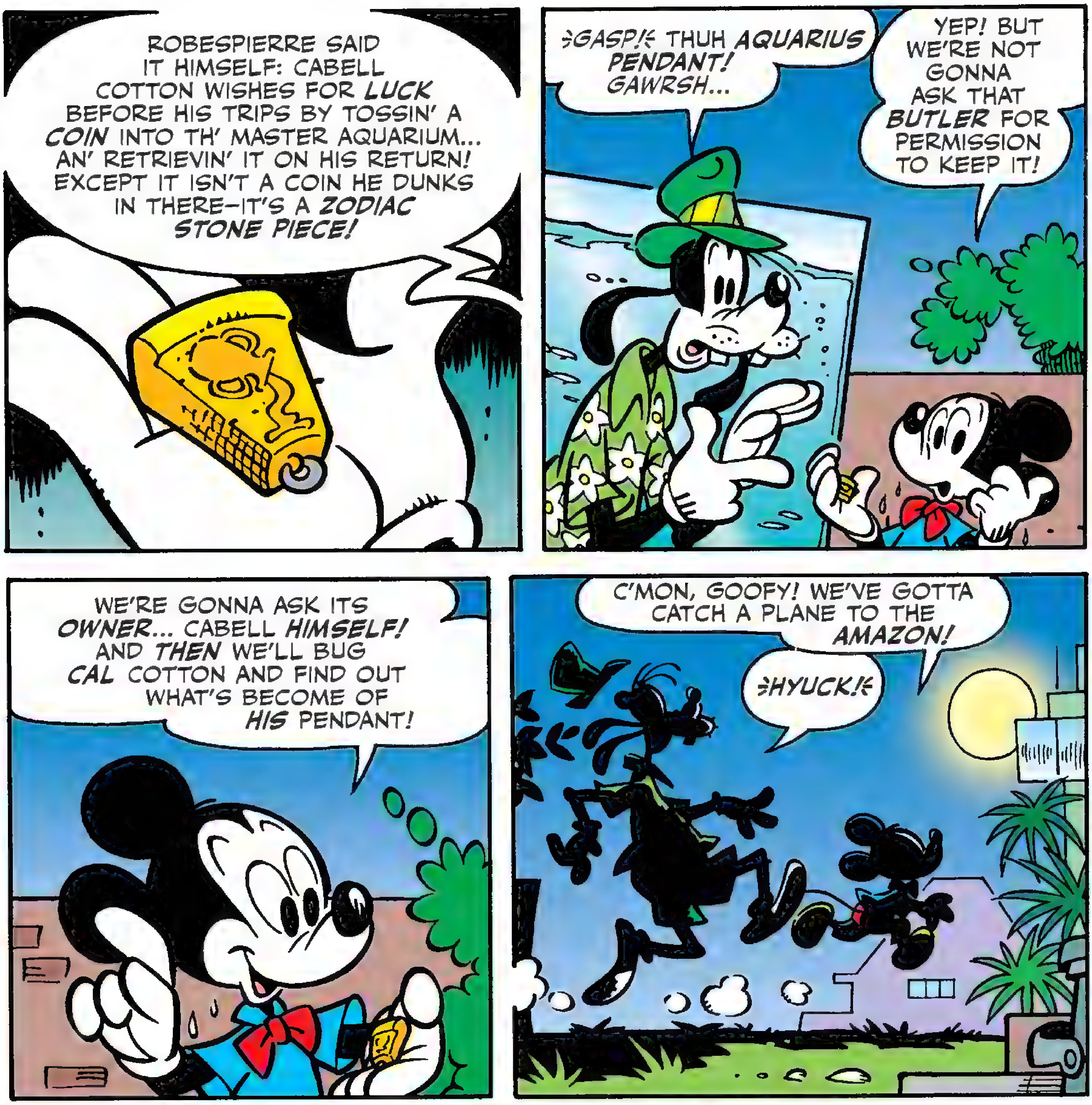

REALLY? YOU'RE NOT A TWIT? THEN ENTER! I HELP MY TWI-ER, MASTER DEAL WITH MANY MUSEUMS!
SWELL!
THUS ARE EXPLANATIONS MADE...
AND YOU SAY THESE "ZODIAC STONE PENDANTS" MAY BE FAMILY HEIRLOOMS?
YEAH! CAB MIGHT BE WEARIN' HIS IN THE AMAZON NOW!
HM. DOESN'T SOUND FAMILIAR... AND NEITHER CABELL NOR CALLOWAY WEAR JEWELRY!
OF THAT, I AM CERTAIN.
COULD HE KEEP IT HERE IN HIS BEDROOM?

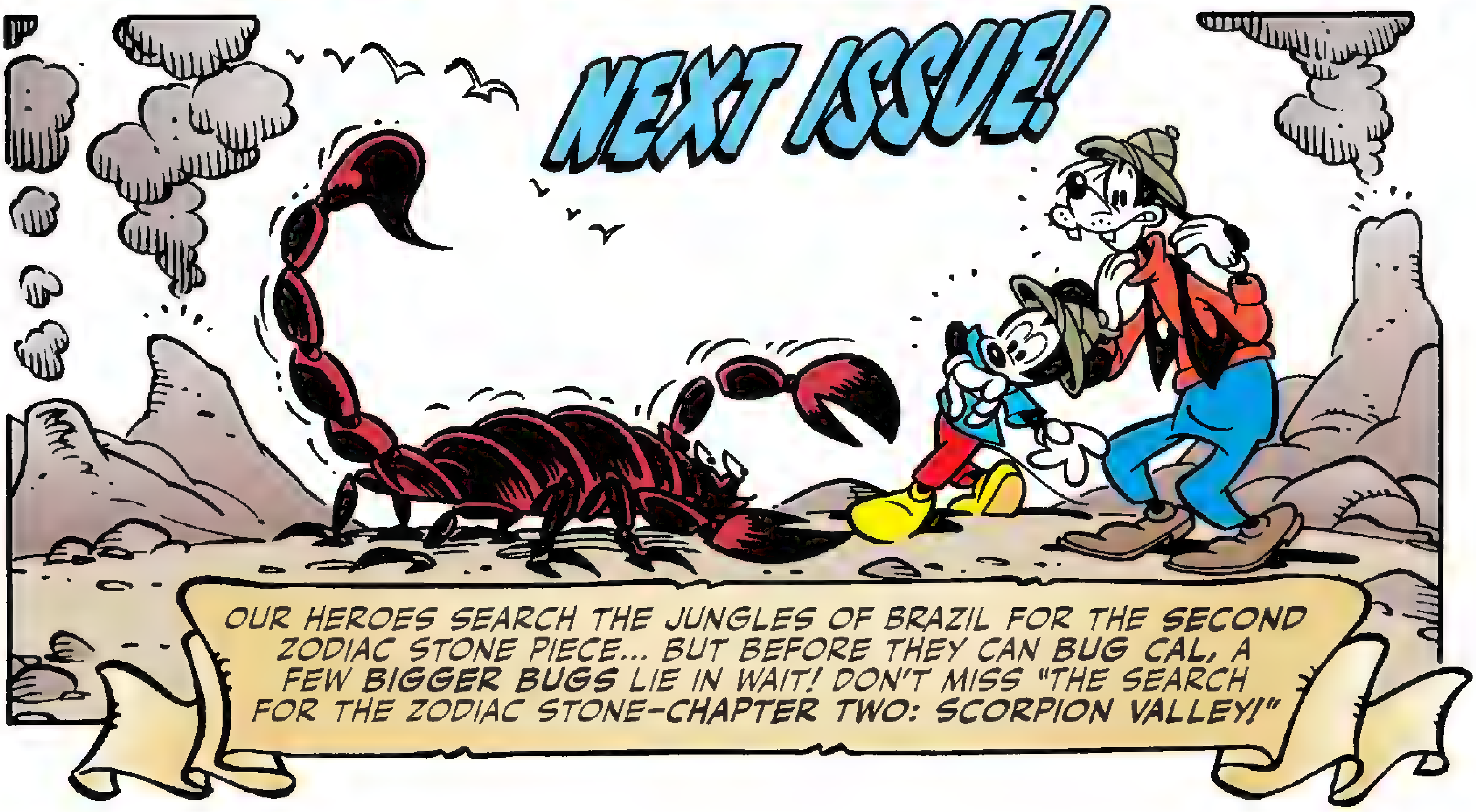

IMPOSSIBLE! I'D KNOW! I CLEAN THAT NIGHTMARISH PLACE DAILY.
BUT IT'S SUCH A SMALL THI–
SIR! YOU ARE INSULTING MY PROFESSIONALISM!
GAWRSH! I'M SORRY!
TWIT.
AW, FORGET IT! I'LL ASK CAB MYSELF IN BRAZIL!
ONE MOMENT! DON'T LEAVE YET, TWIT AND UN-TWIT!
!?
IT'S TRADITION FOR ALL VISITWI–ER, VISITORS TO TOSS A COIN INTO THE MASTER AQUARIUM!
GAWRSH! IT'S LIKE THET OL' TREVOR FOUNTAIN IN ROME!


"TREVI FOUNTAIN"... TWIT. AND YES, THE RITE IS SEEN AS GOOD FORTUNE! MASTER CABELL TOSSES A COIN IN BEFORE EVERY TRIP—AND DRAWS IT OUT ON HIS RETURN!
INTERESTIN' STUFF!
AND HOW!
"WELP! THAT'S THUH END O' THAT!... OR IS IT?"
I GOT OUR TICKETS TO BRAZIL! WE HEAD OUT IN THE MORNING!
SMACK INTO TROUBLE, I BET!
KNOTHOLE
MOUSETON
ST. CANARD
"PLACES UNEXPLORED 'N' DANGEROUS," MICK! THET'S WHAT THUH BUTLER SAID!
AW, LIGHTEN UP, GOOFY! IT'S—
YEH, YEH... I'VE HEARD YER "IT'S AN ADVENTURE" SPIEL BEFORE! STILL...


...AT LEAST WE TOSSED A COUPLE O' CLAMS INTO THET GLORIFIED BATHTUB FER GOOD HEALTH!
YEAH... WE DI– AWP!!!
WHU–?
GOOFY, YOU GENIUS!!!
HURRY! TIME'S A-WASTING! DON'T SPARE TH' FEET!
P
NIGHT... STILL IN MIAMI!
YUH MIND EXPLAININ' WHUT–
SHH! WE CAN'T RISK WAKING ROBESPIERRE! WE'VE BOTHERED HIM ENOUGH!


WANNA GIVE ME A LIFT, PAL?
NOW YUH WANNA *BATHE?*
AN' FOLKS SAY *I'M* THE WEIRD ONE!
HERE'S HOPIN' THIS WASHBOWL DOESN'T HAVE ANY *PIRANHA* IN IT!
IT'S THE DAWNIN' OF THUH AGE O' AQUARIUMS, AN' *HE'S* HARD-UP FER *CASH!*
EUREKA! I DID IT!
WE FOUND THE *FIRST PENDANT!* AN' IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU, OL' PAL!
?


ROBESPIERRE SAID IT HIMSELF: CABELL COTTON WISHES FOR *LUCK* BEFORE HIS TRIPS BY TOSSIN' A *COIN* INTO TH' MASTER AQUARIUM... AN' RETRIEVIN' IT ON HIS RETURN! EXCEPT IT ISN'T A COIN HE DUNKS IN THERE–IT'S A *ZODIAC STONE PIECE!*
GASP! THUH *AQUARIUS PENDANT!* *GAWRSH...*
YEP! BUT WE'RE NOT GONNA ASK THAT *BUTLER* FOR PERMISSION TO KEEP IT!
WE'RE GONNA ASK ITS *OWNER*... CABELL *HIMSELF!* AND *THEN* WE'LL BUG *CAL* COTTON AND FIND OUT WHAT'S BECOME OF *HIS* PENDANT!
C'MON, GOOFY! WE'VE GOTTA CATCH A PLANE TO THE *AMAZON!*
HYUCK!


NEXT ISSUE!
OUR HEROES SEARCH THE JUNGLES OF BRAZIL FOR THE *SECOND* ZODIAC STONE PIECE... BUT BEFORE THEY CAN *BUG CAL*, A FEW *BIGGER BUGS* LIE IN WAIT! DON'T MISS "THE SEARCH FOR THE ZODIAC STONE–*CHAPTER TWO: SCORPION VALLEY!*"

Art by Giorgio Cavazzano, Colors by Scott Rockwell

WALT DISNEY PRESENTS:

THE SEARCH FOR THE ZODIAC STONE!

SCORPIO
3-1781

AN EPIC YARN OF MICE AND DUCKS!

LAST ISSUE: AT THE END OF A **TIME-TRAVELLING ADVENTURE, MICKEY MOUSE** AND **GOOFY** DISCOVER THE EXISTENCE OF THE LEGENDARY **ZODIAC STONE**... AN ANCIENT TALISMAN THAT ALLOWS ITS USER TO SEE THE FUTURE! BUT THE STONE WAS **SPLIT** INTO 12 **PENDANTS** AND DISPERSED AMONGST THE SECRET **ZODIAC SOCIETY!** NOW MICKEY AND GOOFY MUST LOCATE THE **DESCENDANTS** OF THIS LONG-GONE FELLOWSHIP AND CLAIM EACH ONE OF THEIR LONG-LOST PIECES! BUT THEY AREN'T THE **ONLY ONES** LOOKING! **PEGLEG PETE** IS ON THE TRAIL, TOO...

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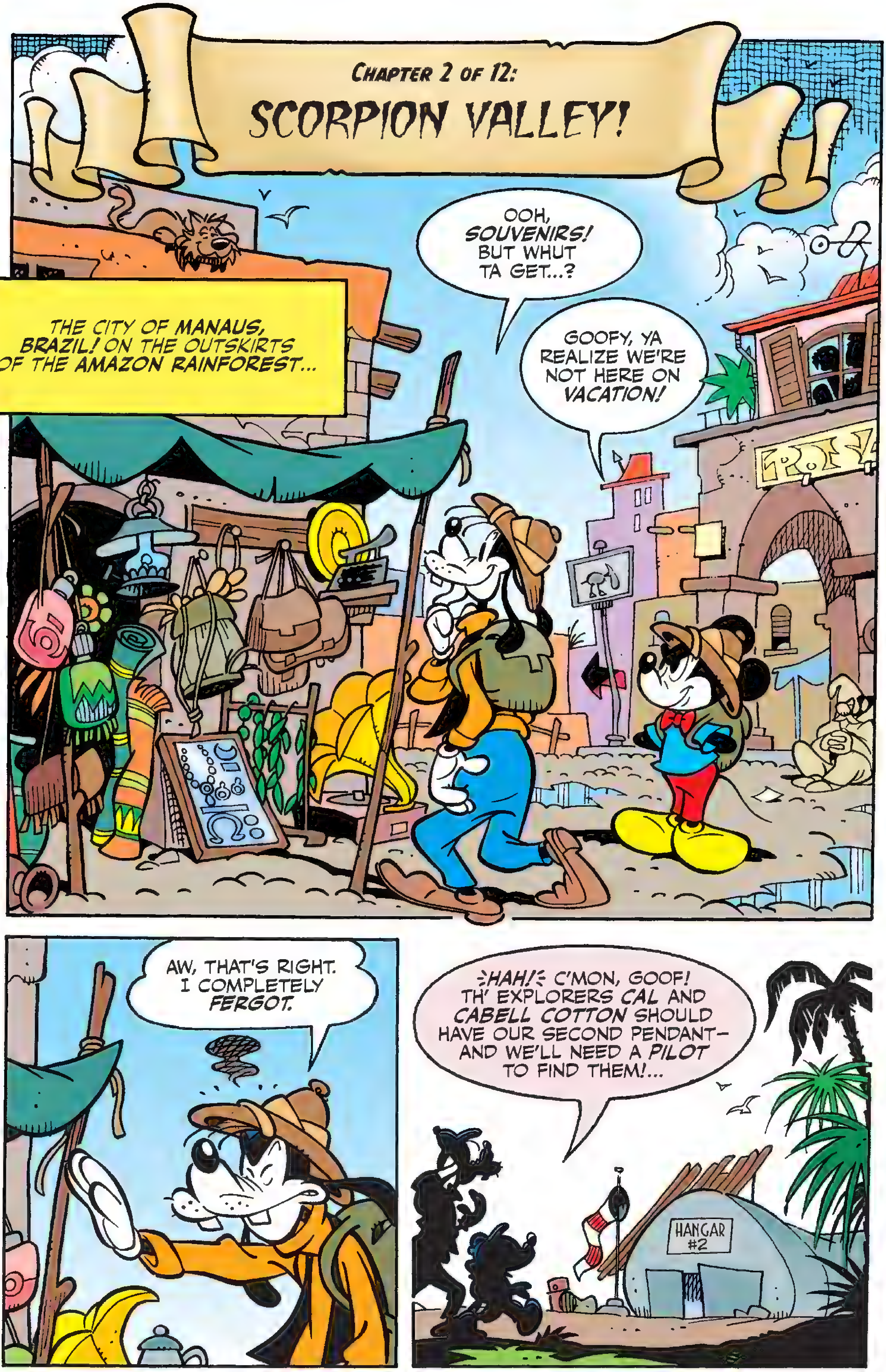
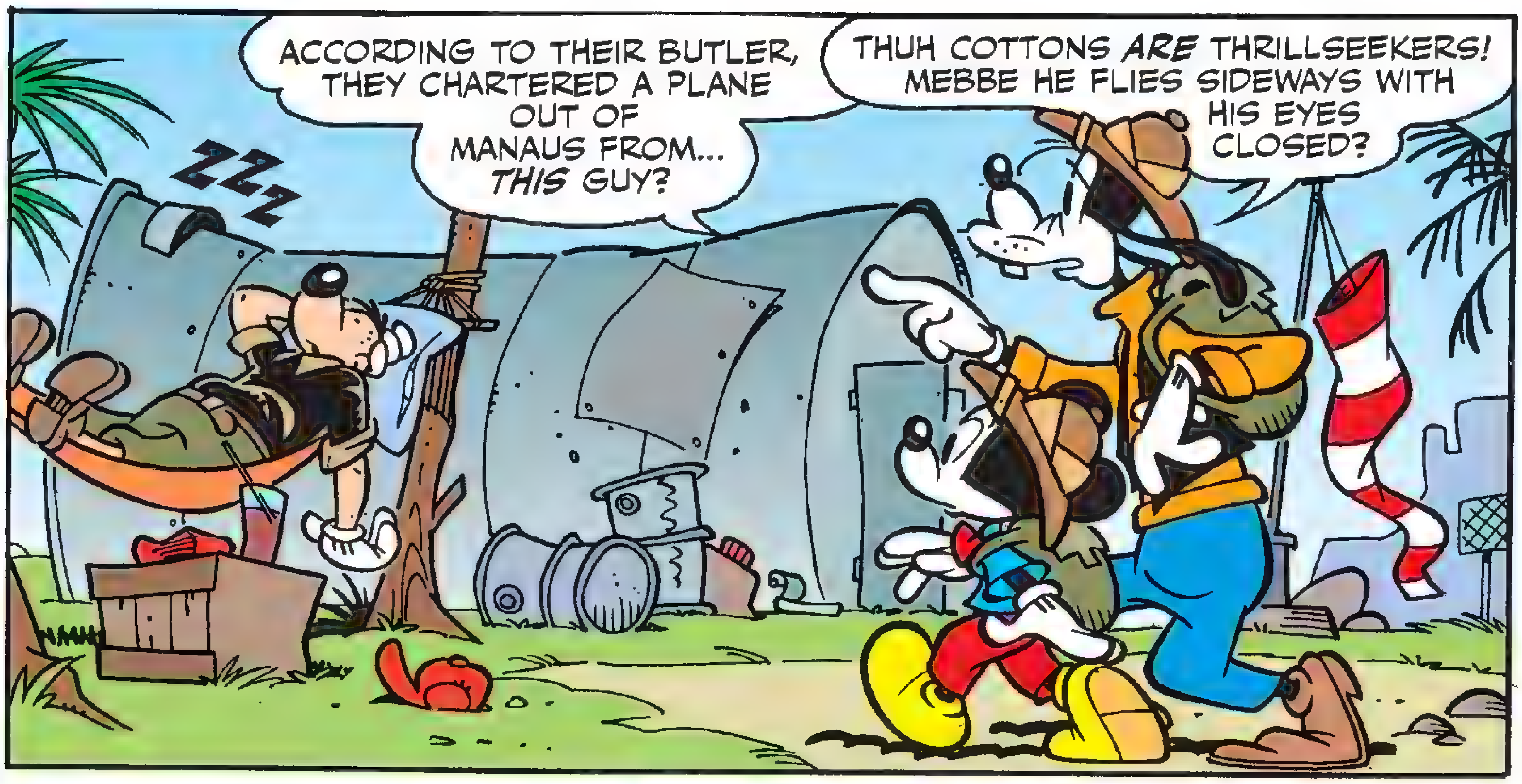
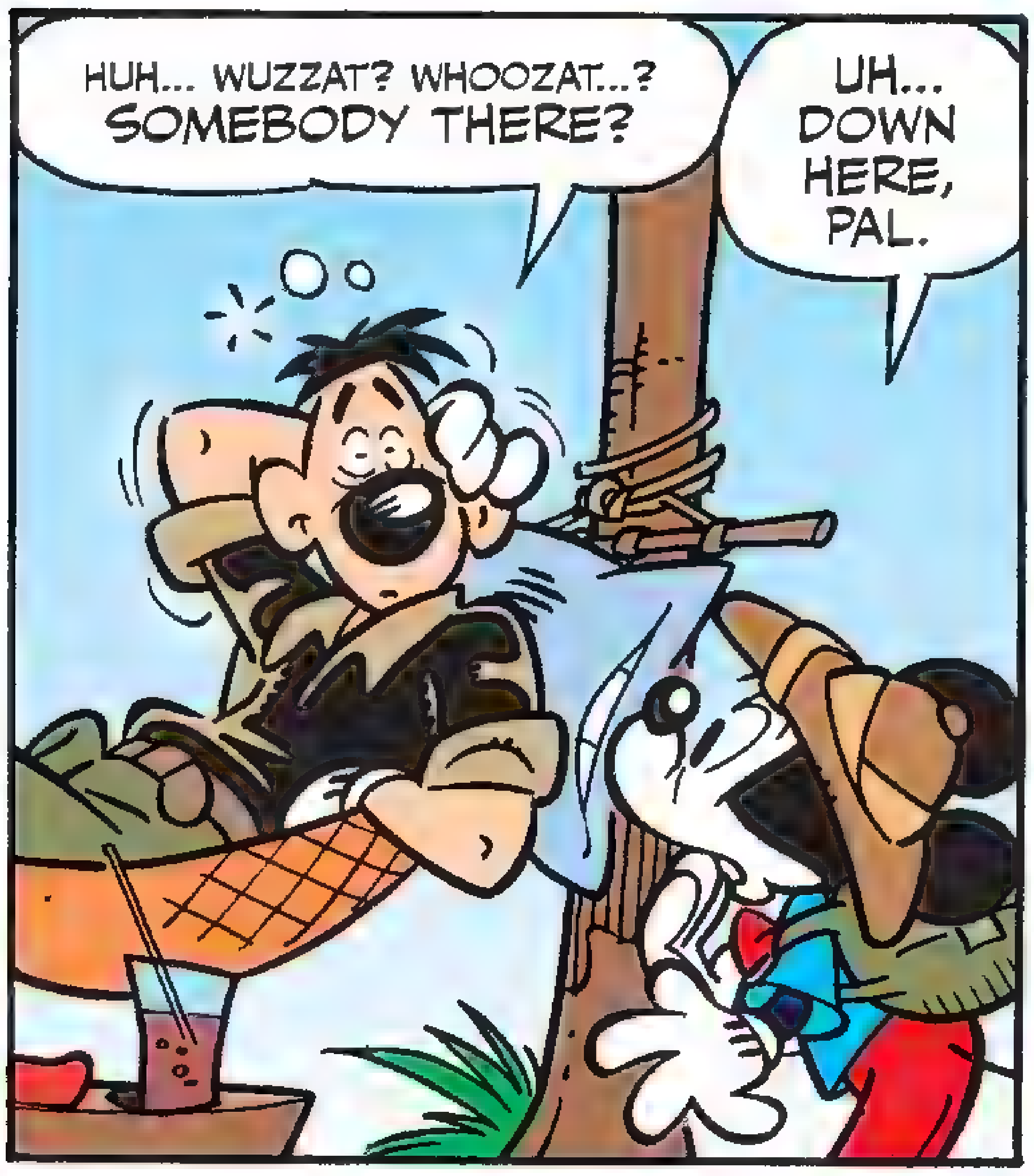
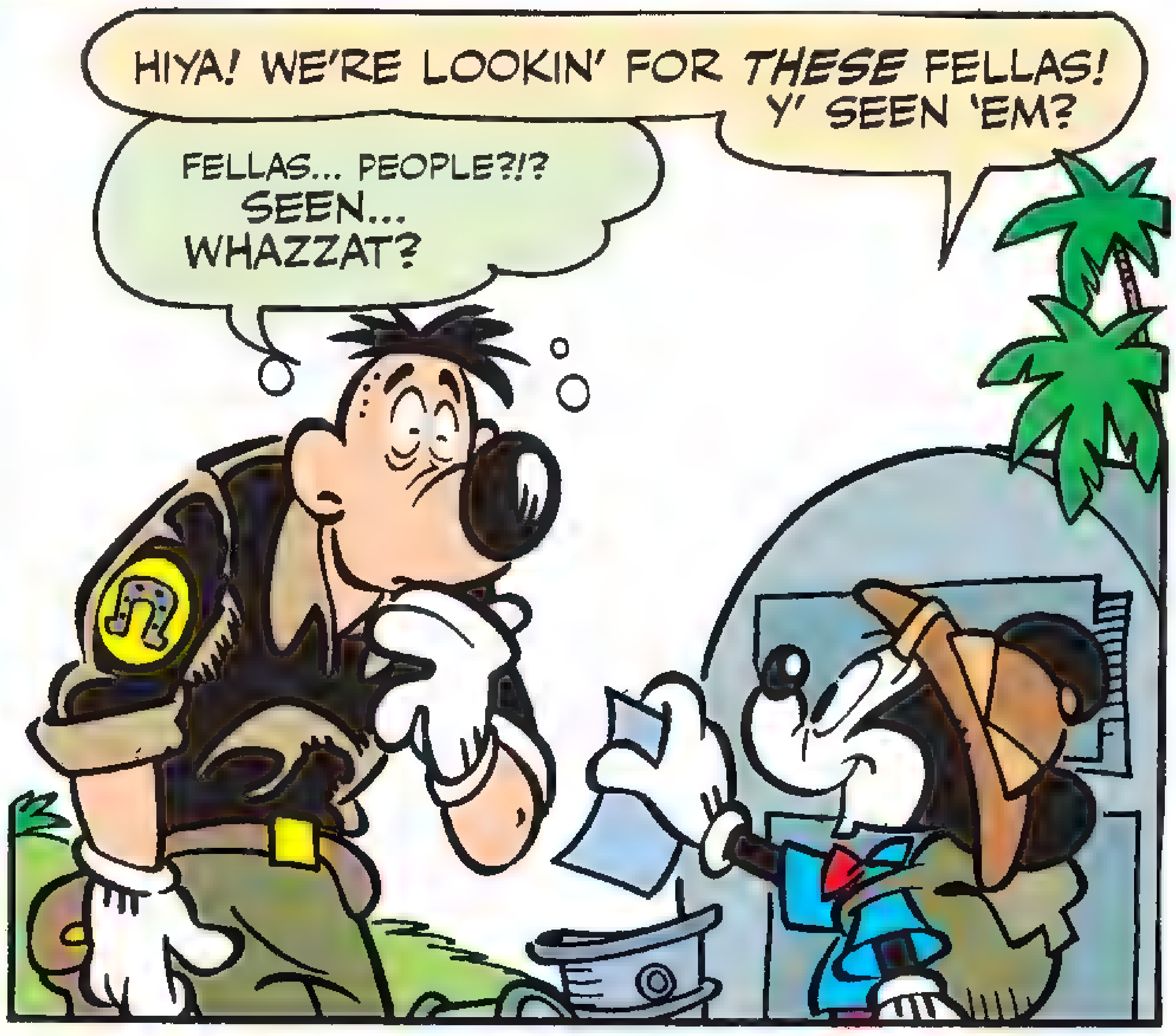
CHAPTER 2 OF 12:

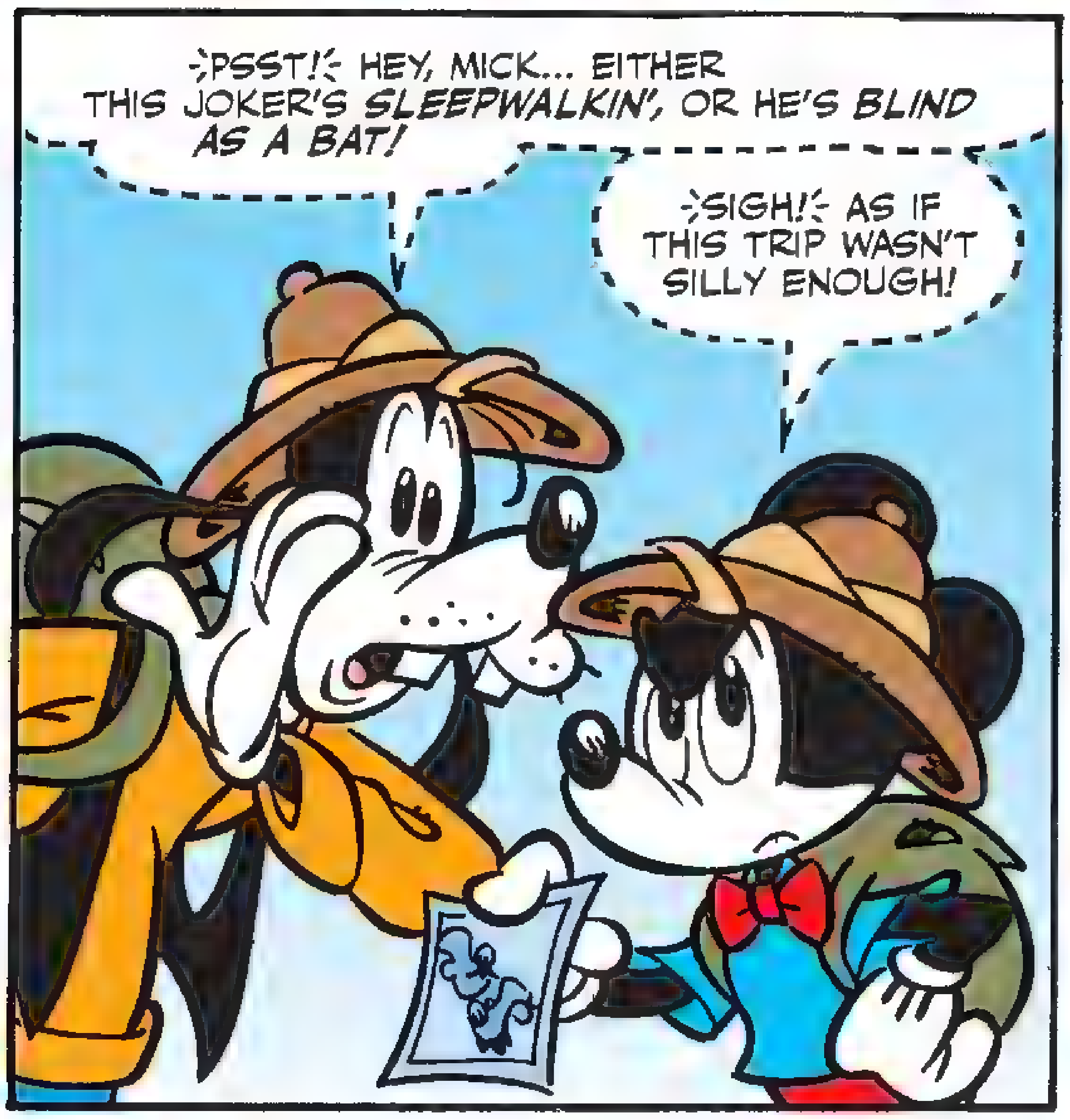
SCORPION VALLEY!

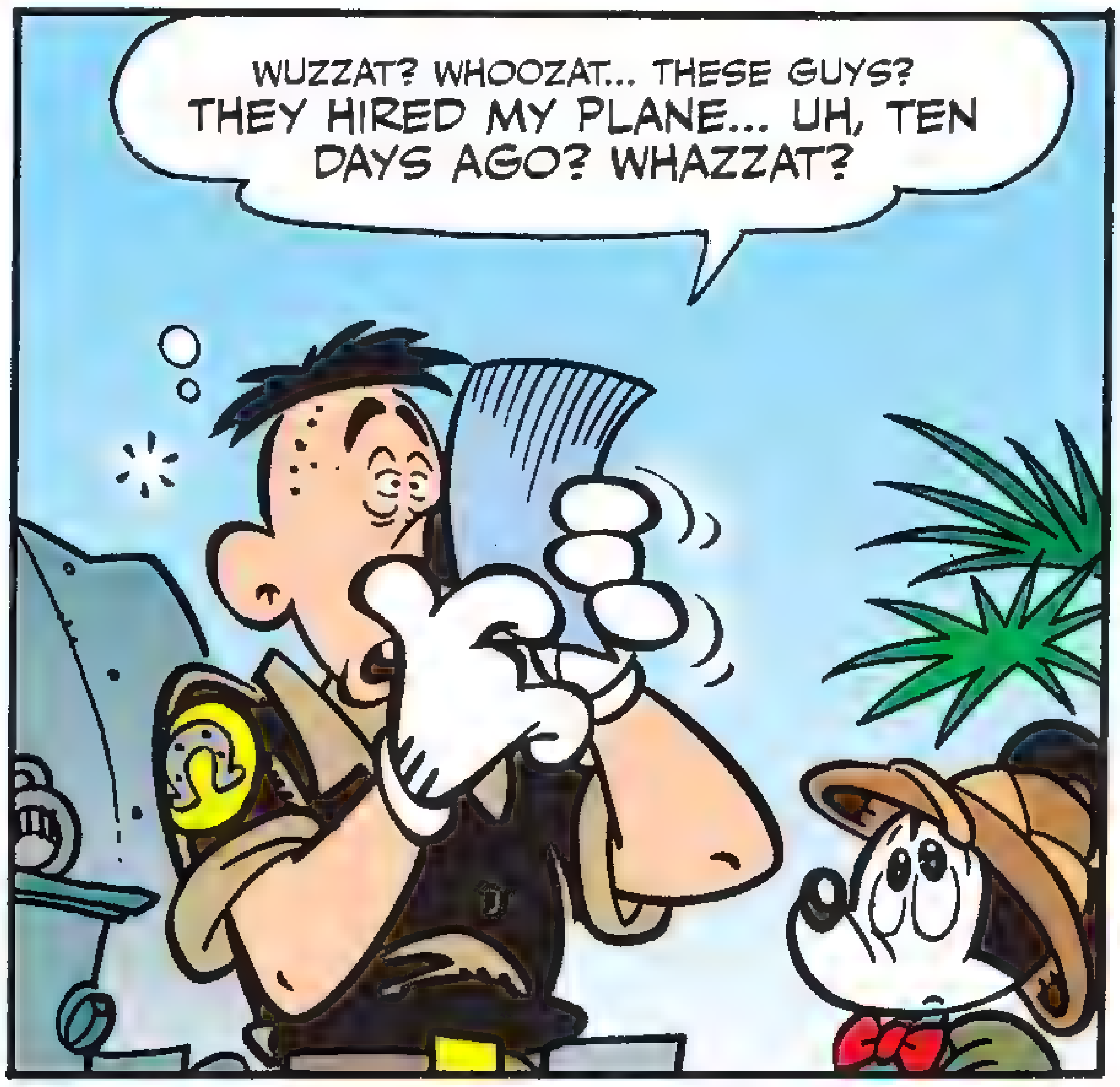

THE CITY OF MANAUS, BRAZIL! ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE AMAZON RAINFOREST...
OOH, SOUVENIRS! BUT WHUT TA GET...?
GOOFY, YA REALIZE WE'RE NOT HERE ON VACATION!
AW, THAT'S RIGHT. I COMPLETELY FERGOT.
HAH! C'MON, GOOF! TH' EXPLORERS CAL AND CABELL COTTON SHOULD HAVE OUR SECOND PENDANT— AND WE'LL NEED A PILOT TO FIND THEM!...
HANGAR #2

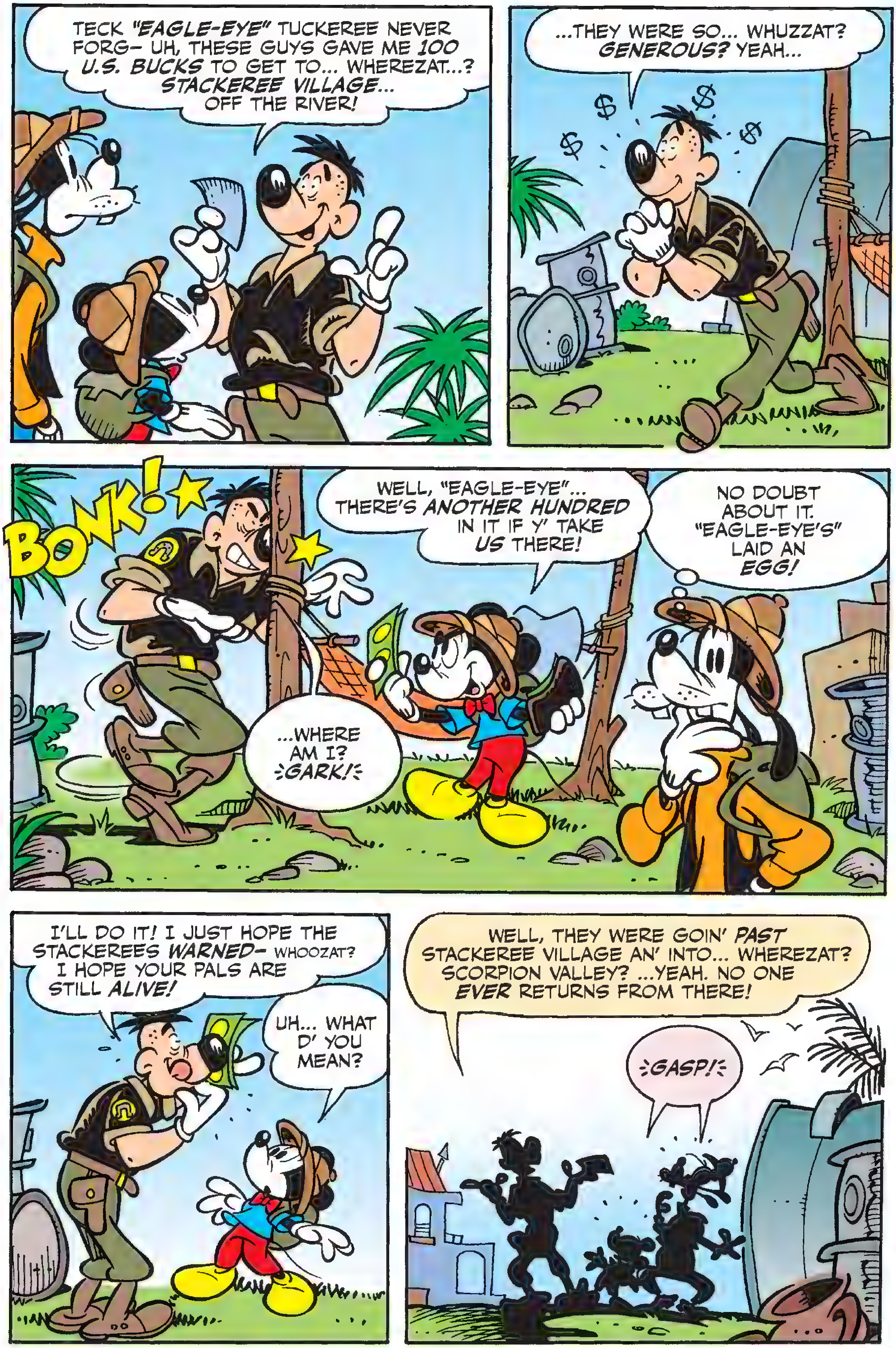

ACCORDING TO THEIR BUTLER, THEY CHARTERED A PLANE OUT OF MANAUS FROM... *THIS* GUY?
THUH COTTONS *ARE* THRILLSEEKERS! MEBBE HE FLIES SIDEWAYS WITH HIS EYES CLOSED?
ZZZ

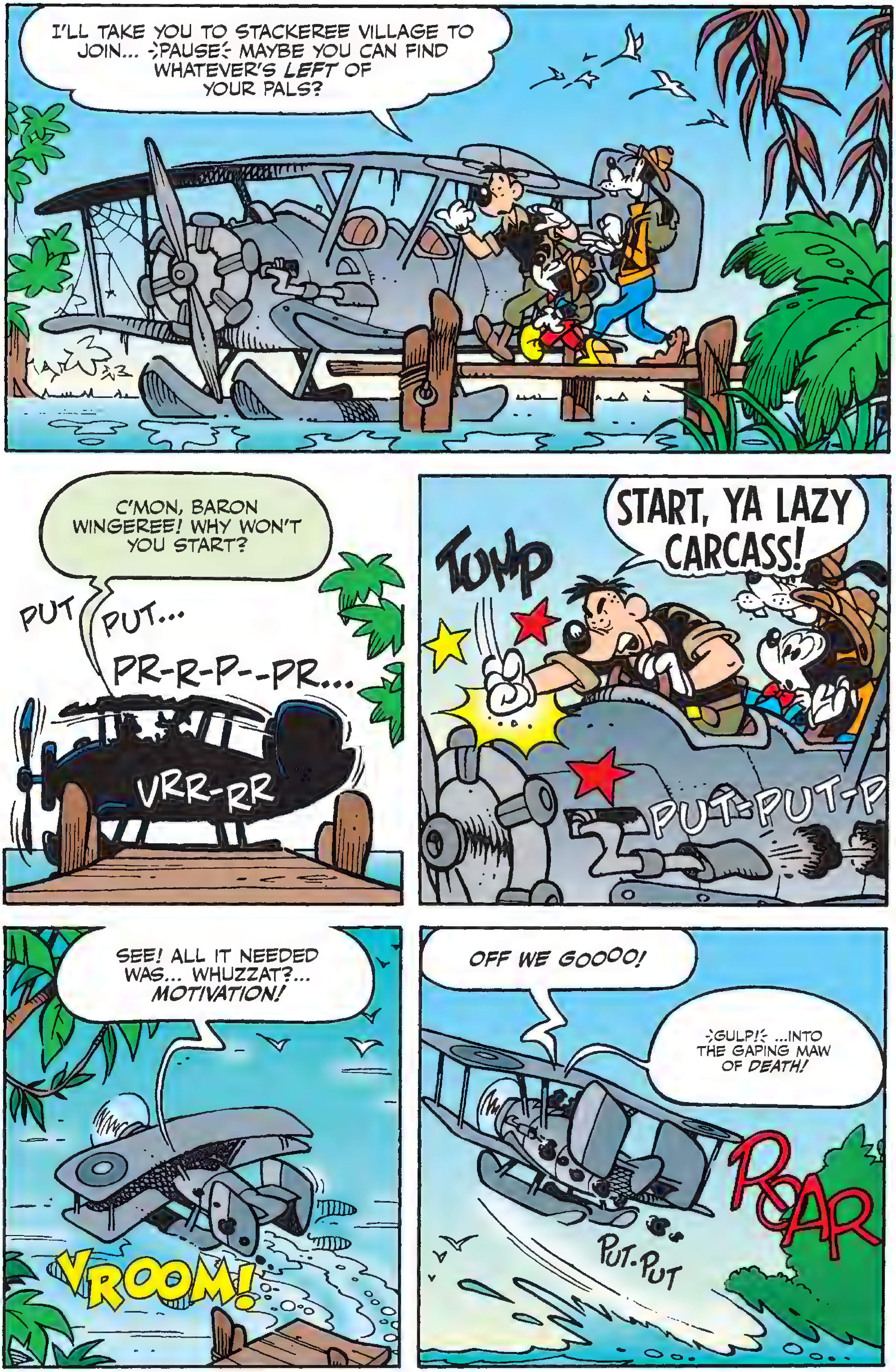

HUH... WUZZAT? WHOOZAT...? SOMEBODY THERE?
UH... DOWN HERE, PAL.

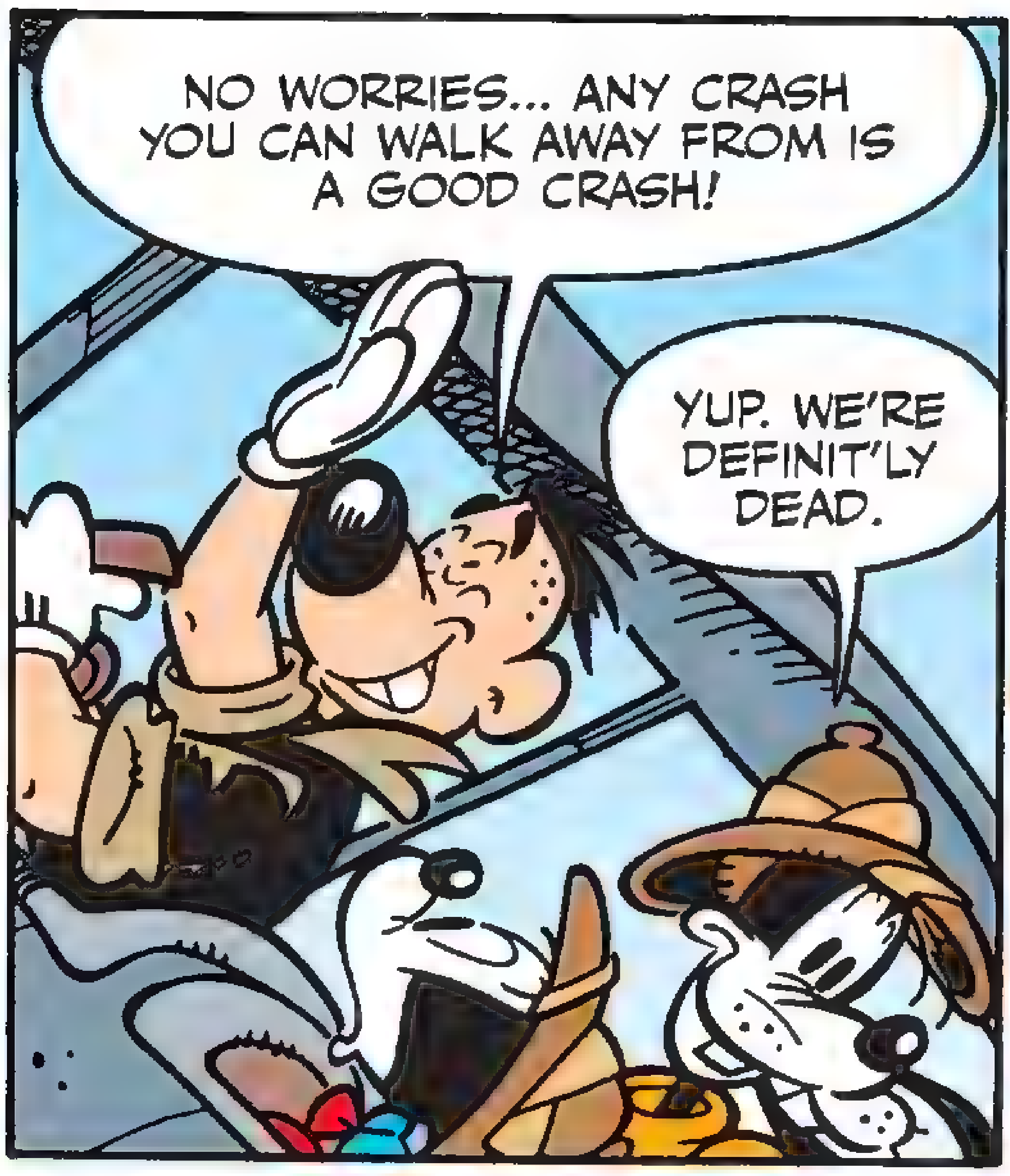

HIYA! WE'RE LOOKIN' FOR *THESE* FELLAS! Y' SEEN 'EM?
FELLAS... PEOPLE?!? SEEN... WHAZZAT?

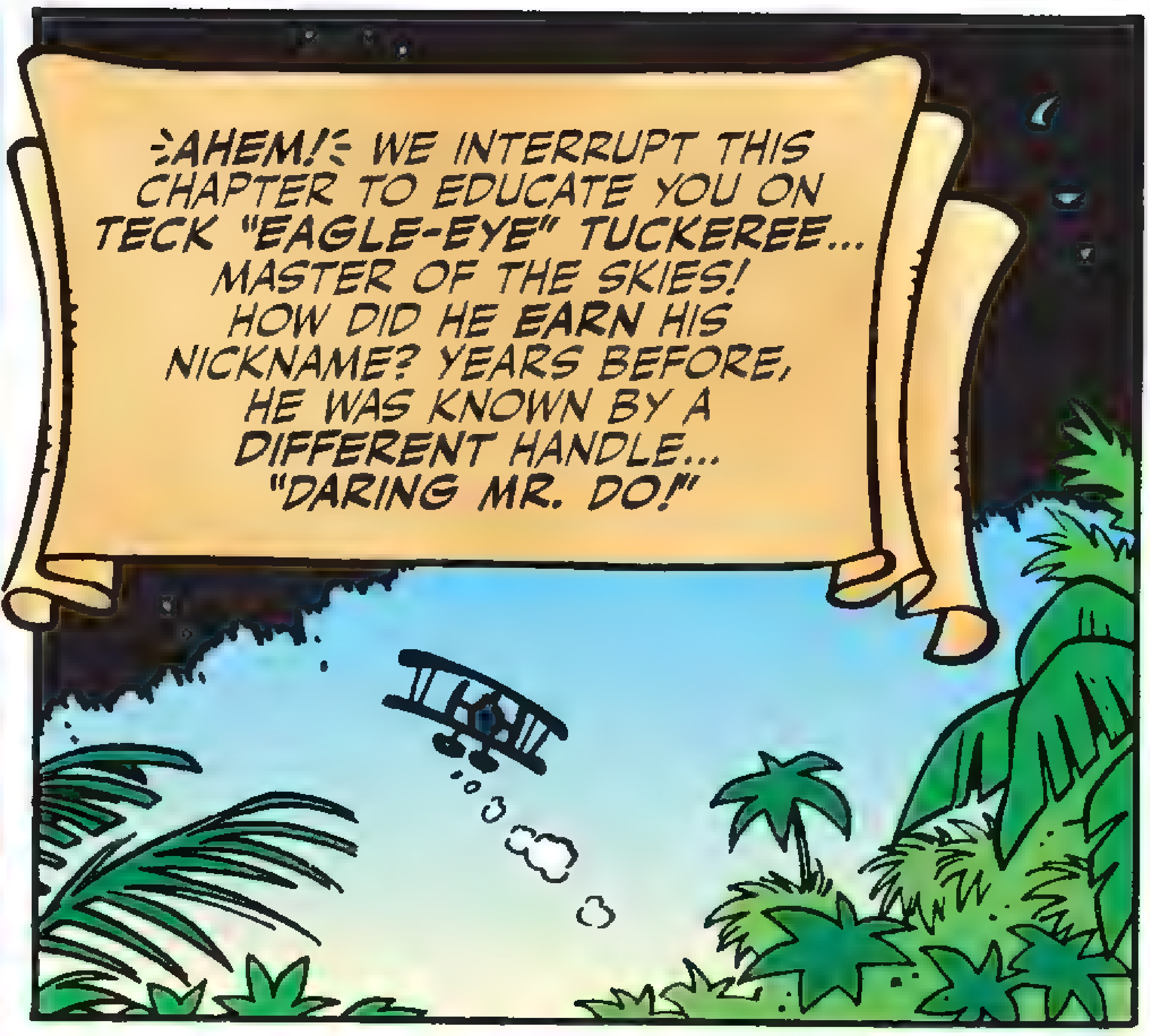

¡PSST!¡ HEY, MICK... EITHER THIS JOKER'S *SLEEPWALKIN'*, OR HE'S *BLIND AS A BAT!*
¡SIGH!¡ AS IF THIS TRIP WASN'T SILLY ENOUGH!

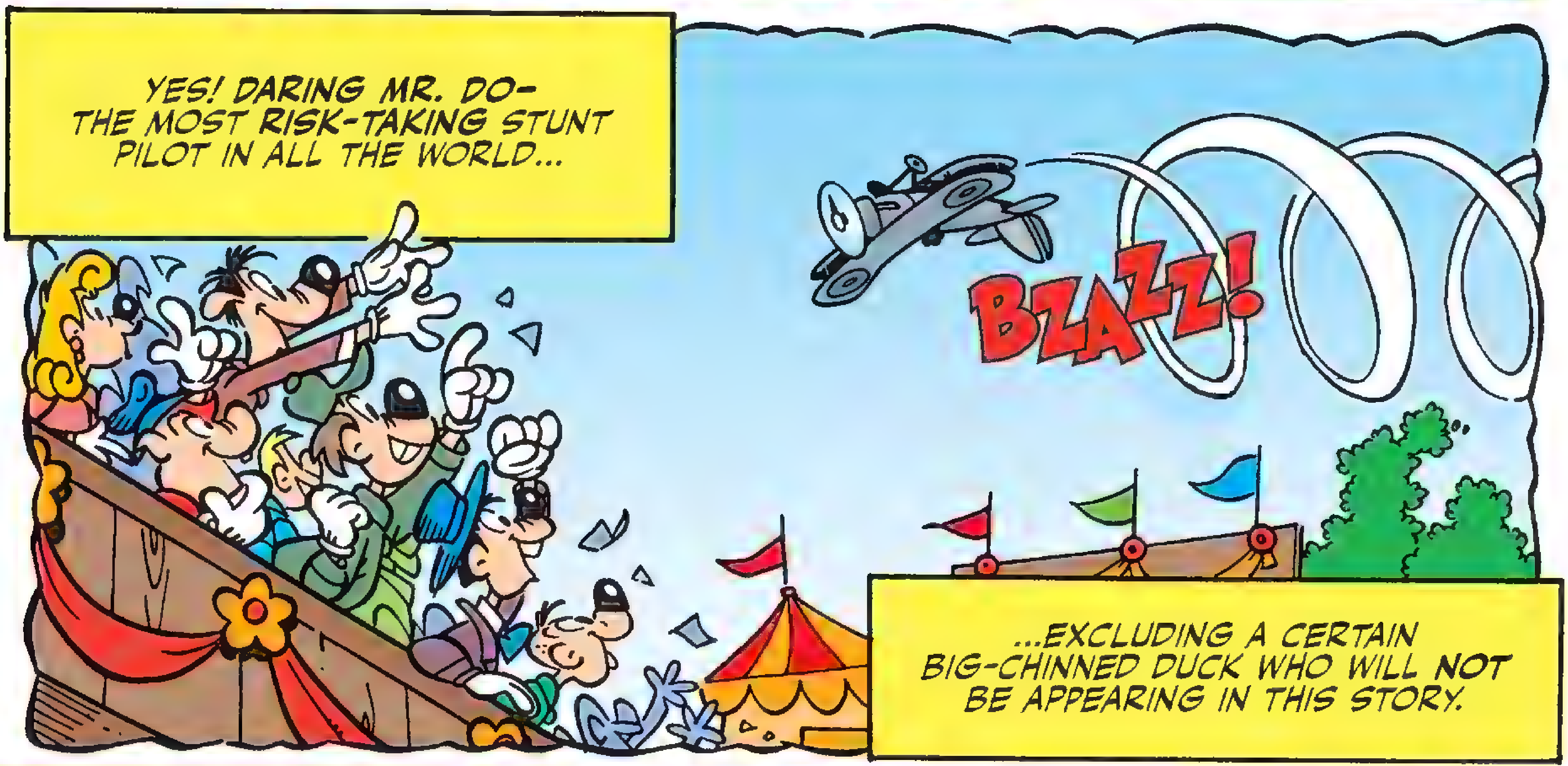

WUZZAT? WHOOZAT... THESE GUYS? THEY HIRED MY PLANE... UH, TEN DAYS AGO? WHAZZAT?

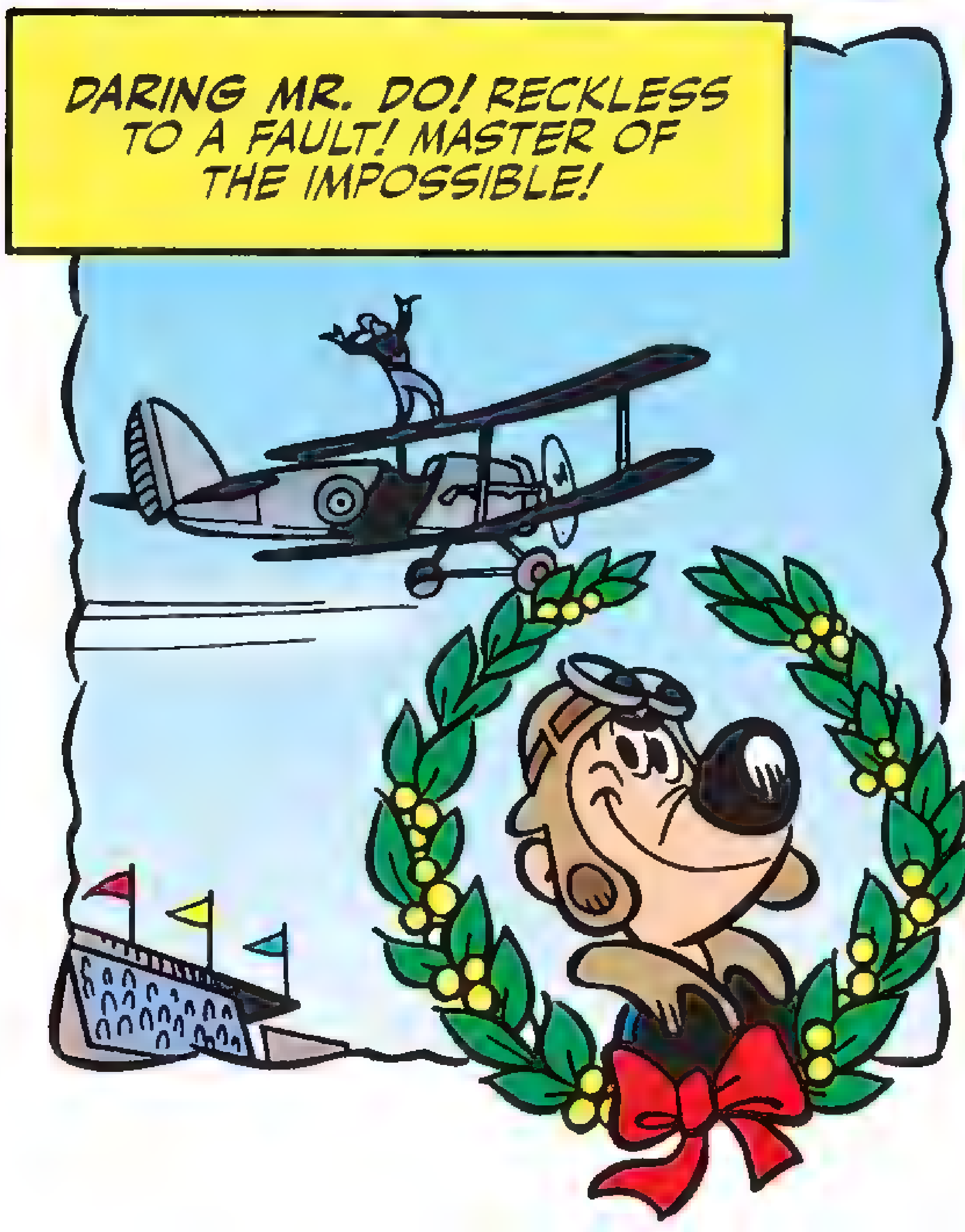

TECK *"EAGLE-EYE"* TUCKEREE NEVER FORG– UH, THESE GUYS GAVE ME *100 U.S. BUCKS* TO GET TO... WHEREZAT...? *STACKEREE VILLAGE*... OFF THE RIVER!
...THEY WERE SO... WHUZZAT? *GENEROUS?* YEAH...
BONK!
WELL, "EAGLE-EYE"... THERE'S *ANOTHER HUNDRED* IN IT IF Y' TAKE *US* THERE!
NO DOUBT ABOUT IT. "EAGLE-EYE'S" LAID AN *EGG!*
...WHERE AM I? *GARK!*
I'LL DO IT! I JUST HOPE THE STACKEREES *WARNED–* WHOOZAT? I HOPE YOUR PALS ARE STILL *ALIVE!*
UH... WHAT D' YOU MEAN?
WELL, THEY WERE GOIN' *PAST* STACKEREE VILLAGE AN' INTO... WHEREZAT? SCORPION VALLEY? ...YEAH. NO ONE *EVER* RETURNS FROM THERE!
GASP!

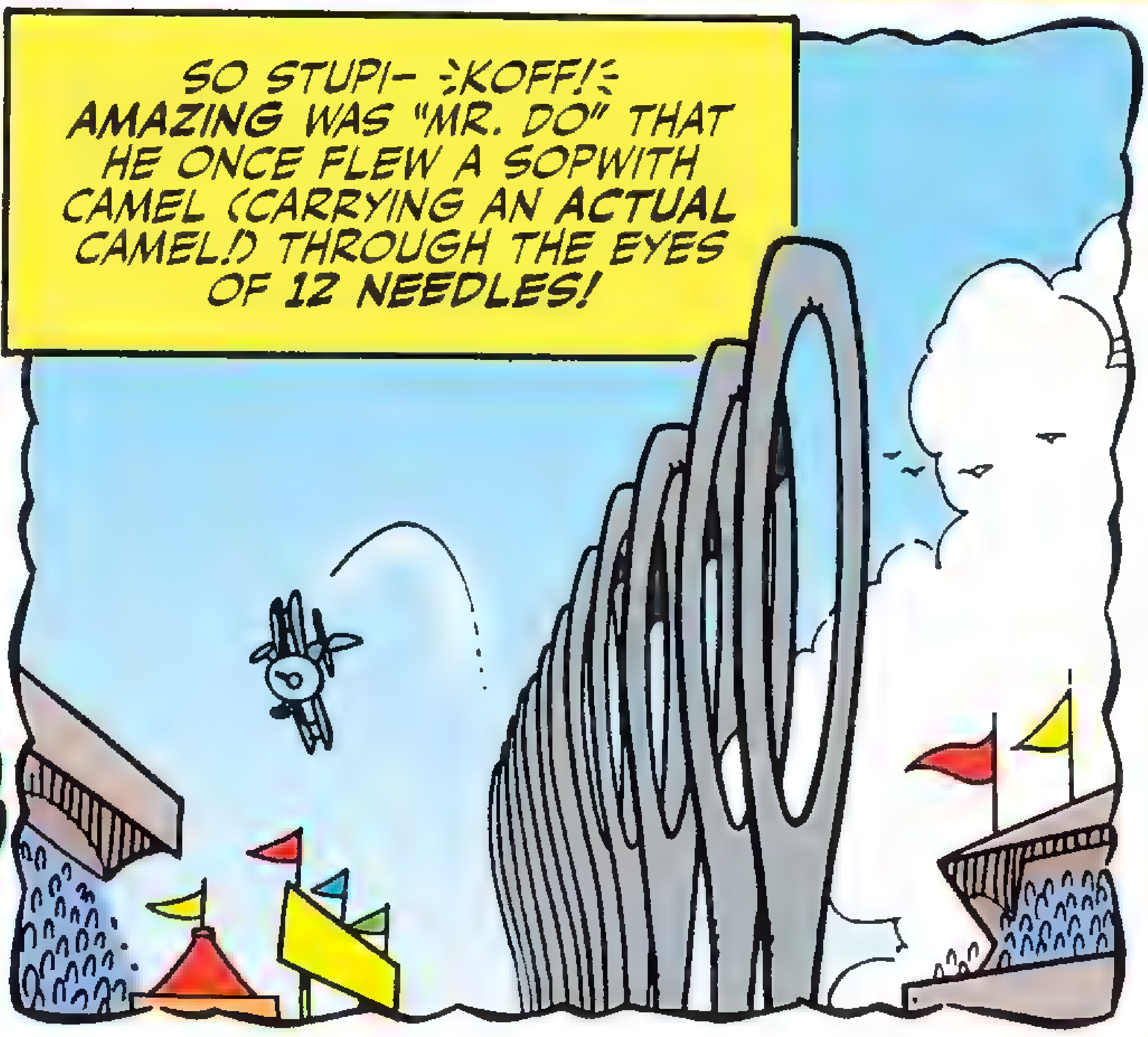

I'LL TAKE YOU TO STACKEREE VILLAGE TO JOIN... ;PAUSE; MAYBE YOU CAN FIND WHATEVER'S *LEFT* OF YOUR PALS?
C'MON, BARON WINGEREE! WHY WON'T YOU START?
PUT PUT...
PR-R-P--PR...
VRR-RR
TUMP
START, YA LAZY CARCASS!
PUT-PUT-P
SEE! ALL IT NEEDED WAS... WHUZZAT?... *MOTIVATION!*
VROOM!
OFF WE GOOOO!
;GULP!; ...INTO THE GAPING MAW OF *DEATH!*
ROAR
PUT-PUT

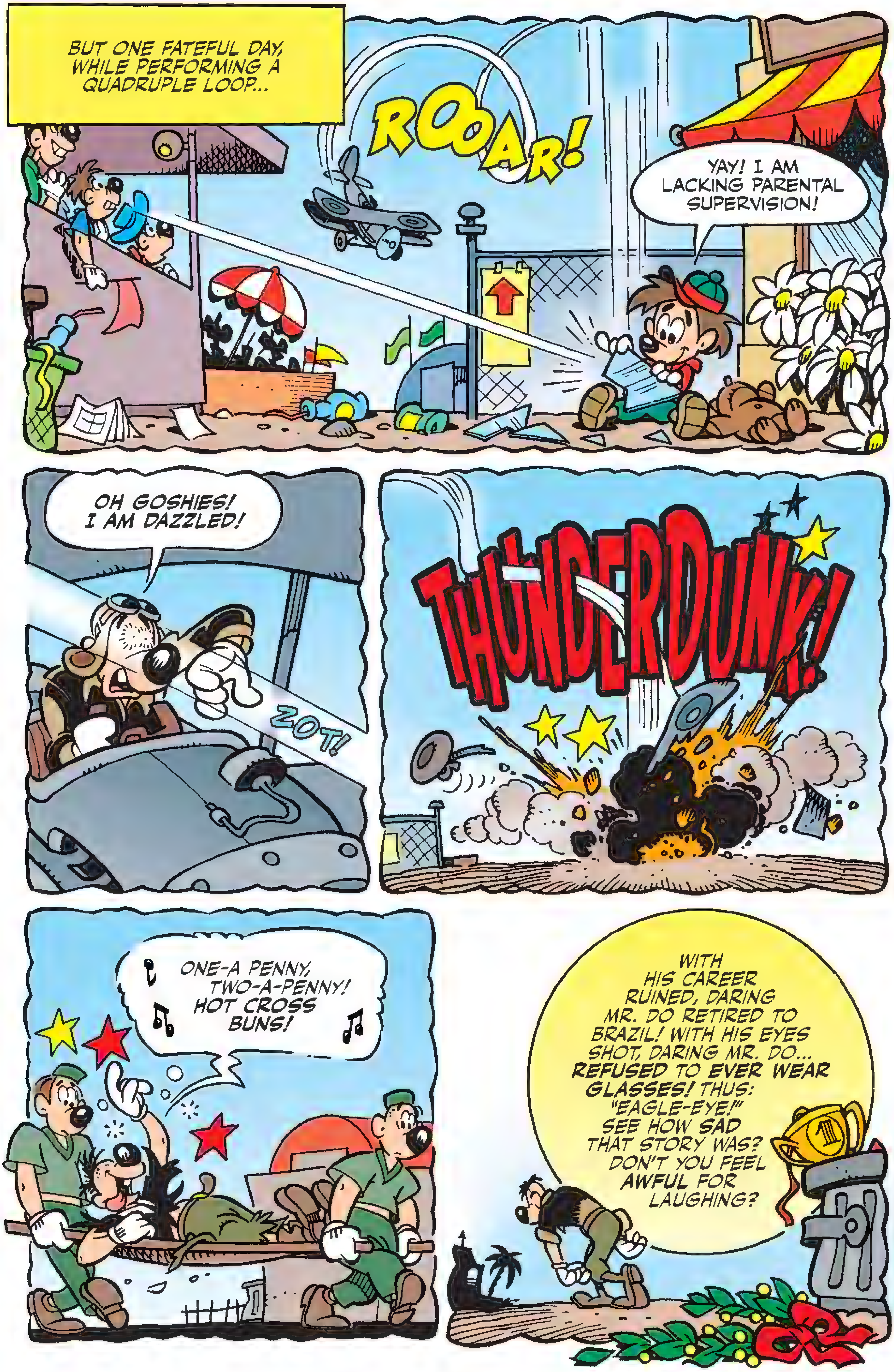

NO WORRIES... ANY CRASH YOU CAN WALK AWAY FROM IS A GOOD CRASH!
YUP. WE'RE DEFINIT'LY DEAD.

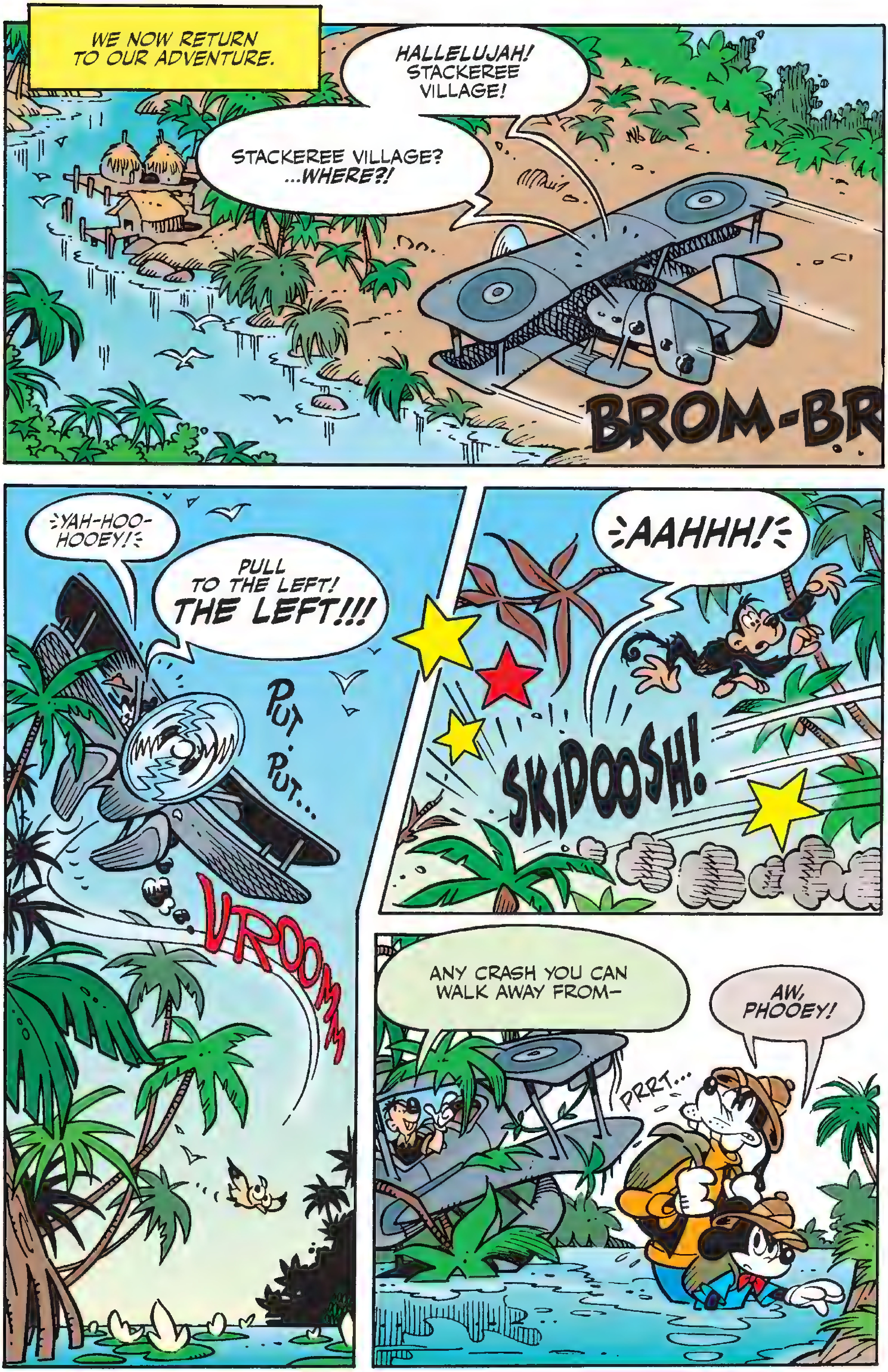

:AHEM!: WE INTERRUPT THIS CHAPTER TO EDUCATE YOU ON TECK "EAGLE-EYE" TUCKEREE... MASTER OF THE SKIES! HOW DID HE EARN HIS NICKNAME? YEARS BEFORE, HE WAS KNOWN BY A DIFFERENT HANDLE... "DARING MR. DO!"

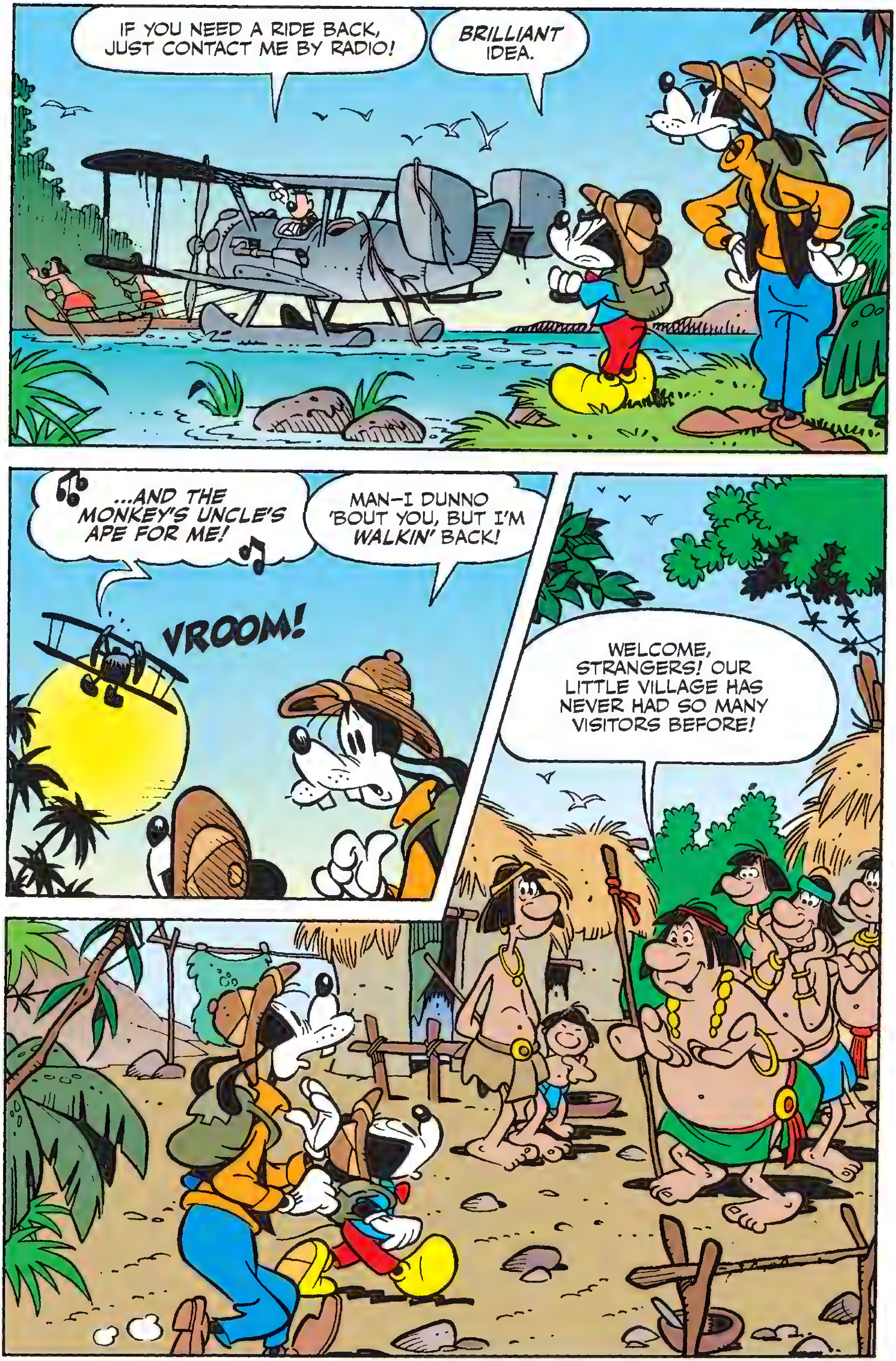

YES! DARING MR. DO- THE MOST RISK-TAKING STUNT PILOT IN ALL THE WORLD...
BZAZZ!
...EXCLUDING A CERTAIN BIG-CHINNED DUCK WHO WILL NOT BE APPEARING IN THIS STORY.

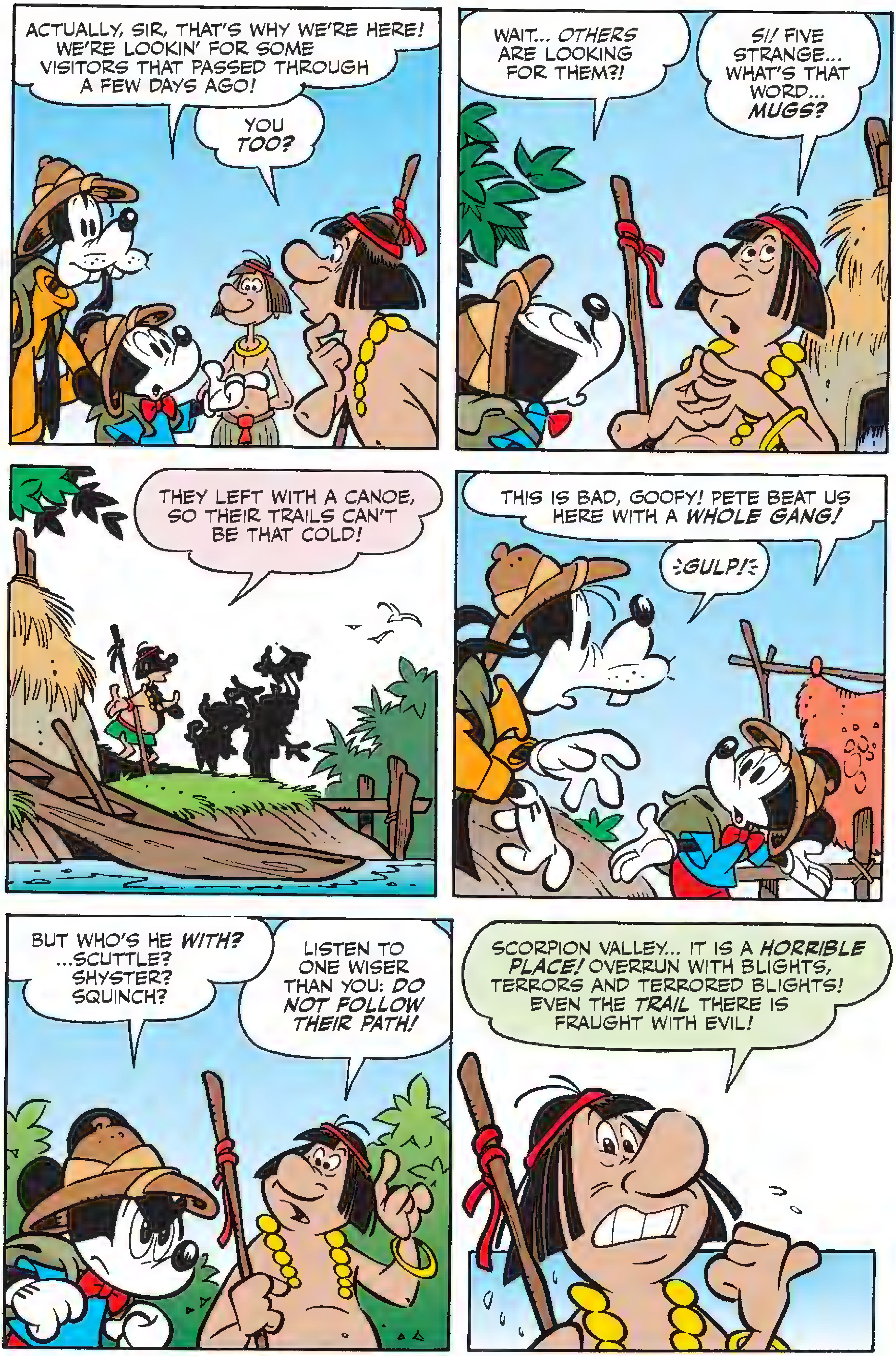

DARING MR. DO! RECKLESS TO A FAULT! MASTER OF THE IMPOSSIBLE!

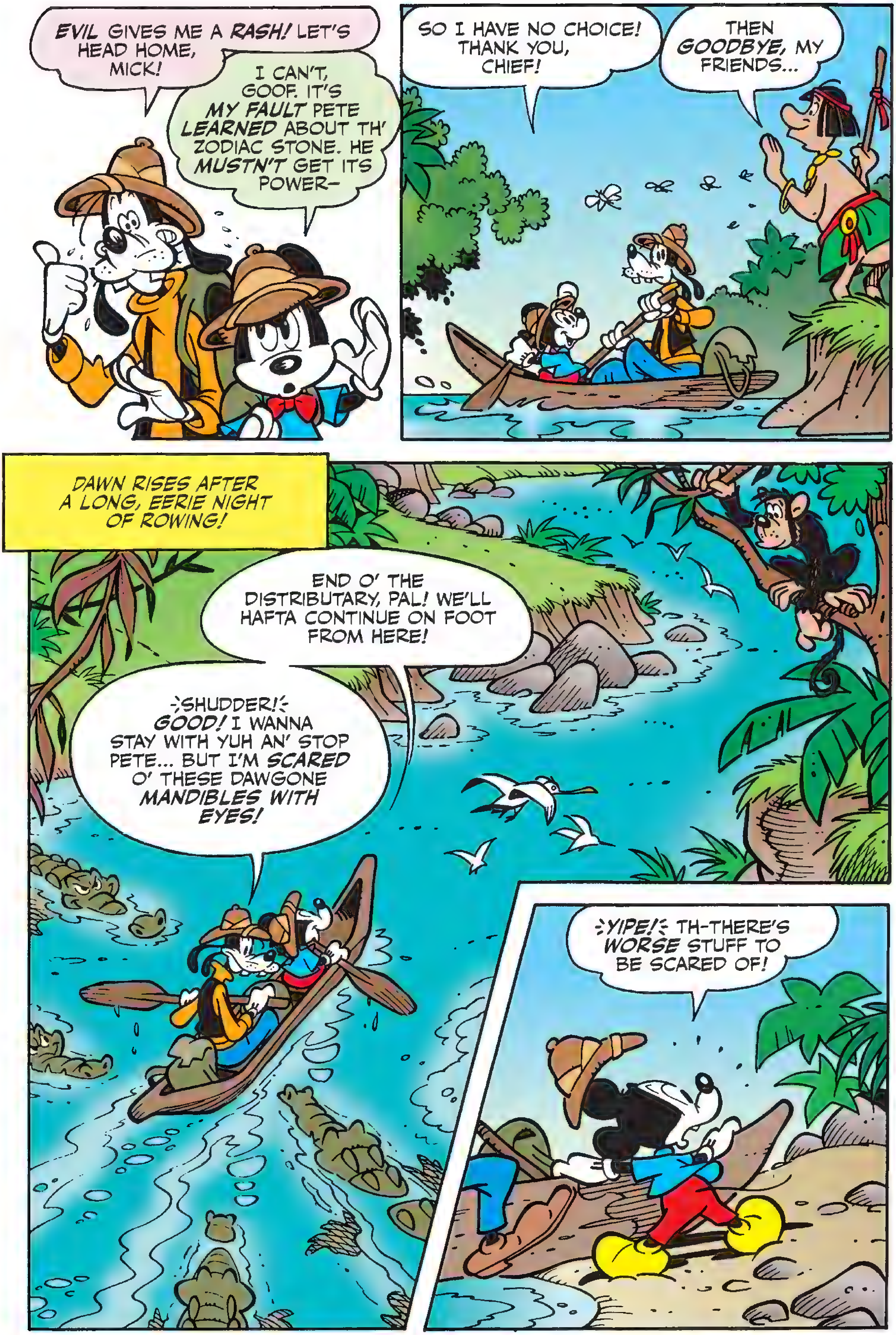

SO STUPI- :KOFF!: AMAZING WAS "MR. DO" THAT HE ONCE FLEW A SOPWITH CAMEL (CARRYING AN ACTUAL CAMEL!) THROUGH THE EYES OF 12 NEEDLES!

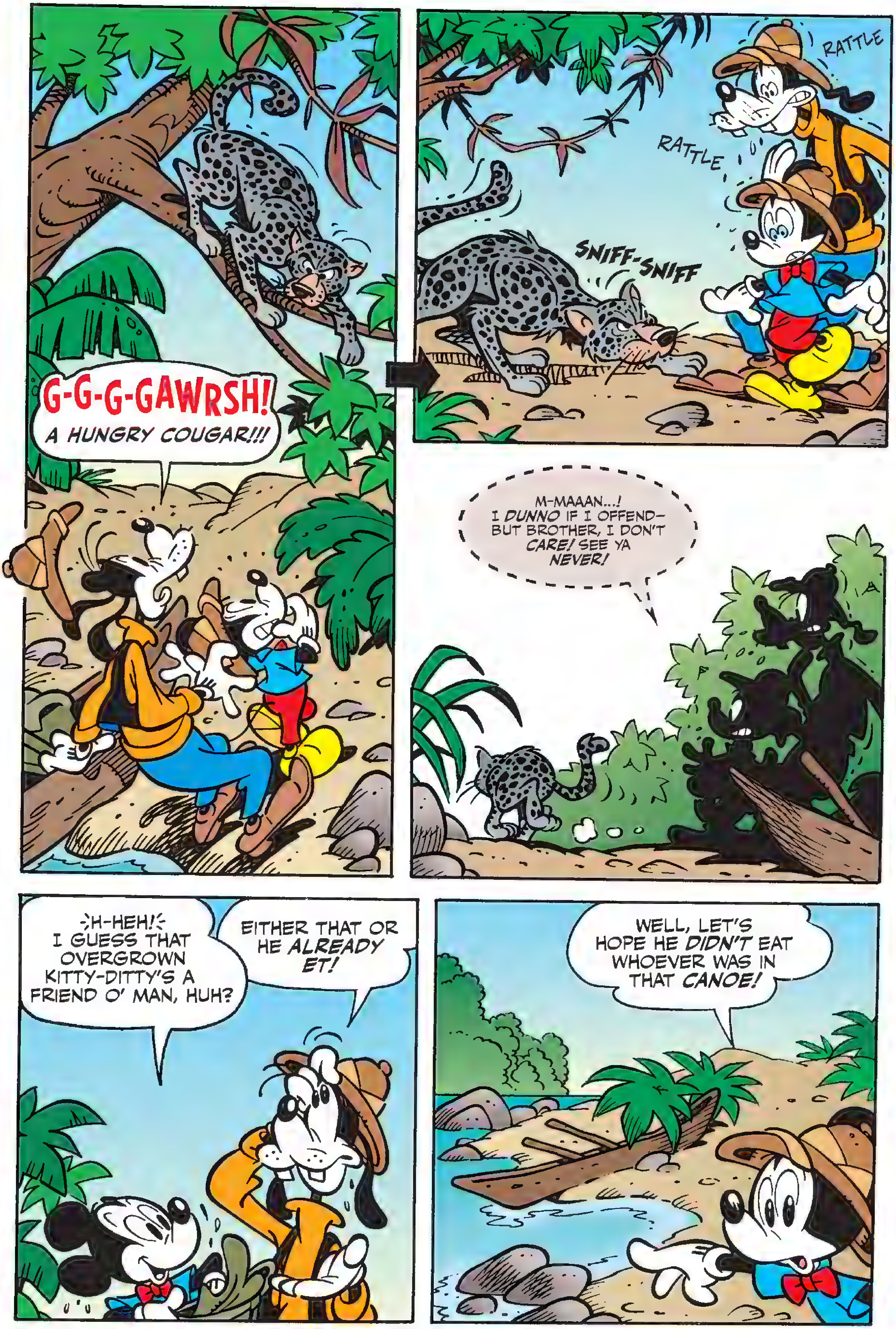

BUT ONE FATEFUL DAY, WHILE PERFORMING A QUADRUPLE LOOP...
ROOOAR!
YAY! I AM LACKING PARENTAL SUPERVISION!
OH GOSHIES! I AM DAZZLED!
ZOT!
THUNDERDUNK!
ONE-A PENNY, TWO-A-PENNY! HOT CROSS BUNS!
WITH HIS CAREER RUINED, DARING MR. DO RETIRED TO BRAZIL! WITH HIS EYES SHOT, DARING MR. DO... REFUSED TO EVER WEAR GLASSES! THUS: "EAGLE-EYE!" SEE HOW SAD THAT STORY WAS? DON'T YOU FEEL AWFUL FOR LAUGHING?
1

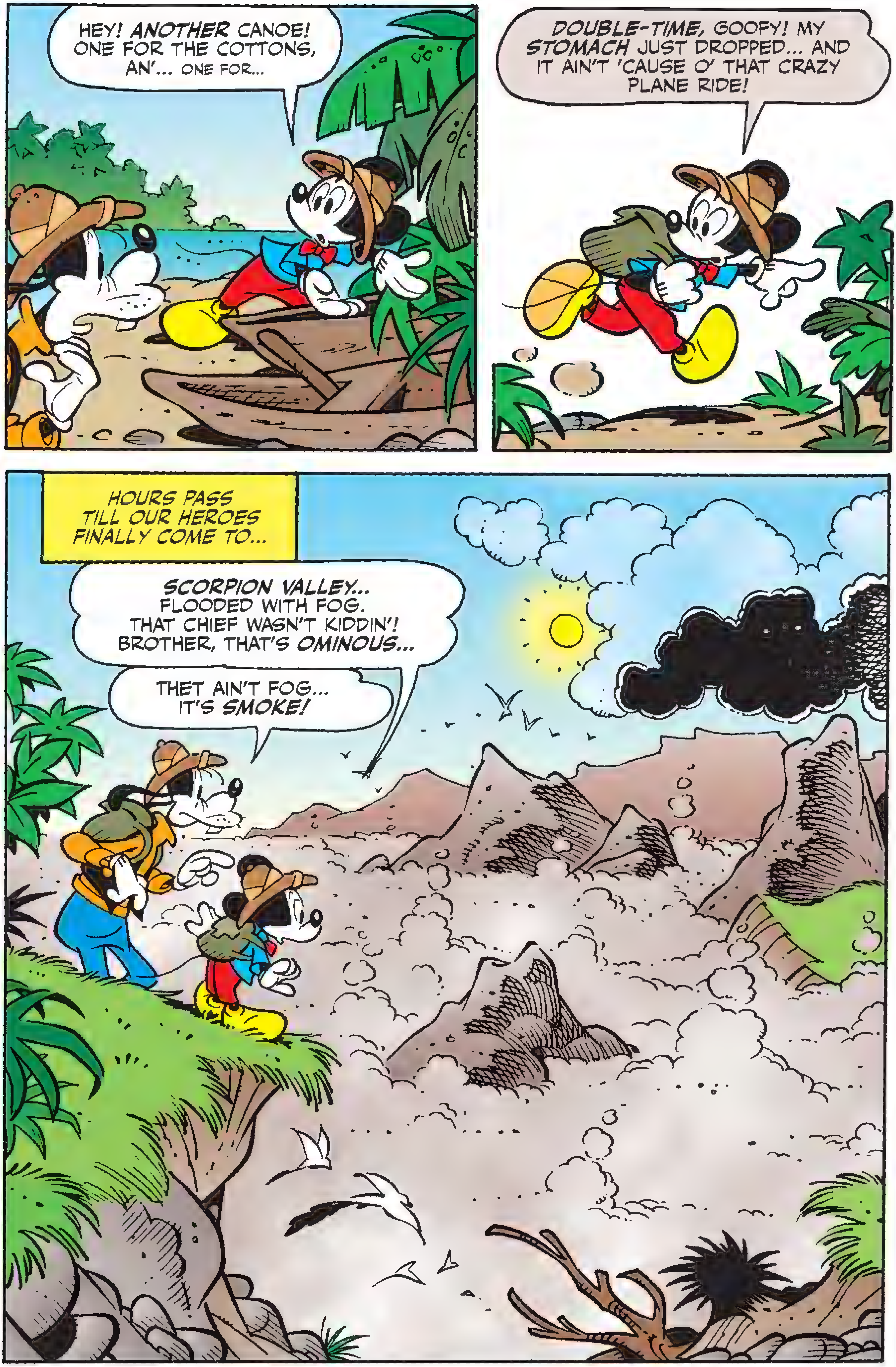

WE NOW RETURN TO OUR ADVENTURE.
HALLELUJAH! STACKEREE VILLAGE!
STACKEREE VILLAGE? ...WHERE?!
BROM-BR
YAH-HOO-HOOEY!
PULL TO THE LEFT! THE LEFT!!!
PUT. PUT...
VROOMM
AAHHH!
SKIDOOSH!
ANY CRASH YOU CAN WALK AWAY FROM–
AW, PHOOEY!
PRRT...

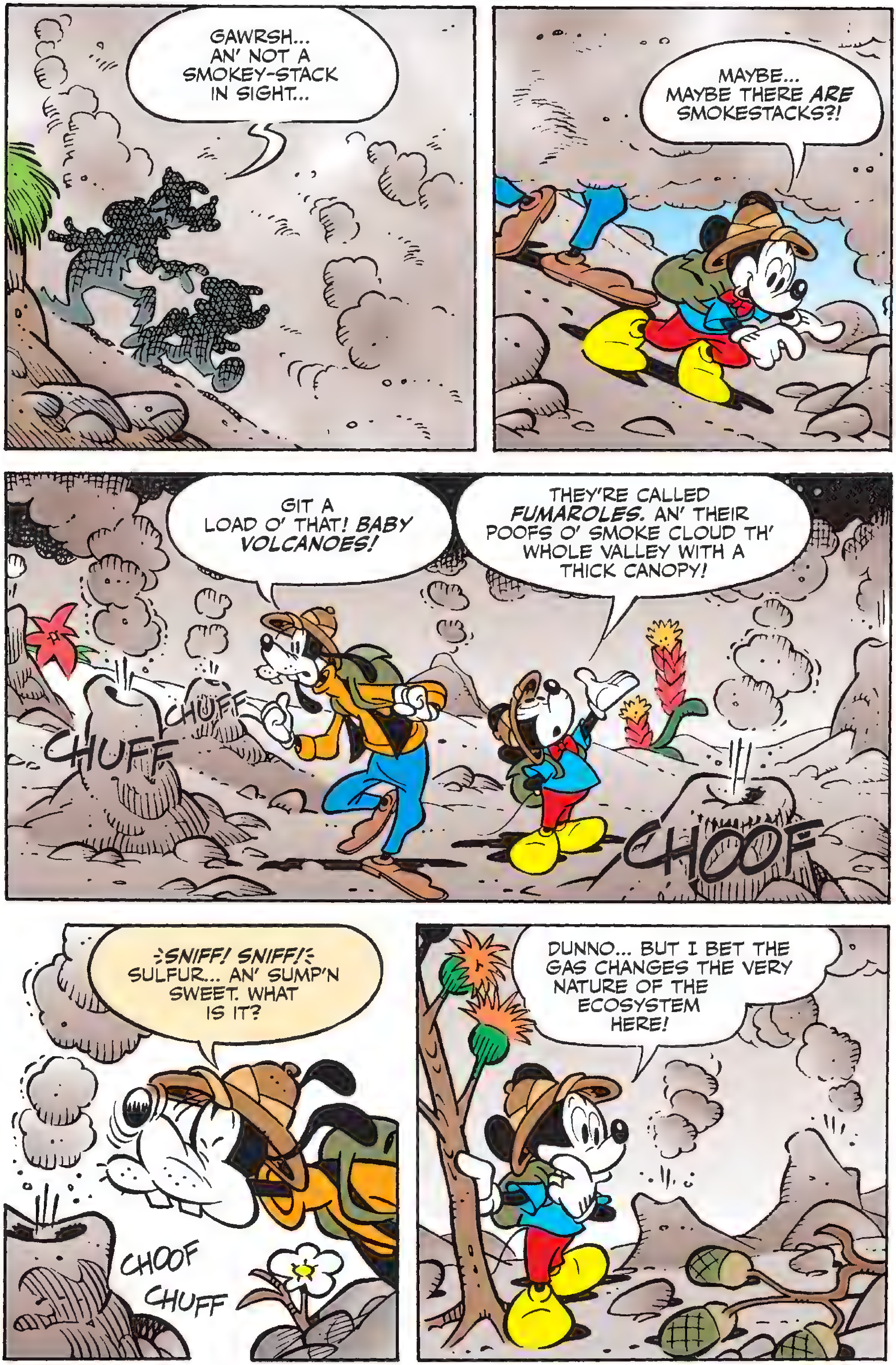

IF YOU NEED A RIDE BACK, JUST CONTACT ME BY RADIO!
BRILLIANT IDEA.
♫ ...*AND THE MONKEY'S UNCLE'S APE FOR ME!* ♪
VROOM!
MAN—I DUNNO 'BOUT YOU, BUT I'M *WALKIN'* BACK!
WELCOME, STRANGERS! OUR LITTLE VILLAGE HAS NEVER HAD SO MANY VISITORS BEFORE!

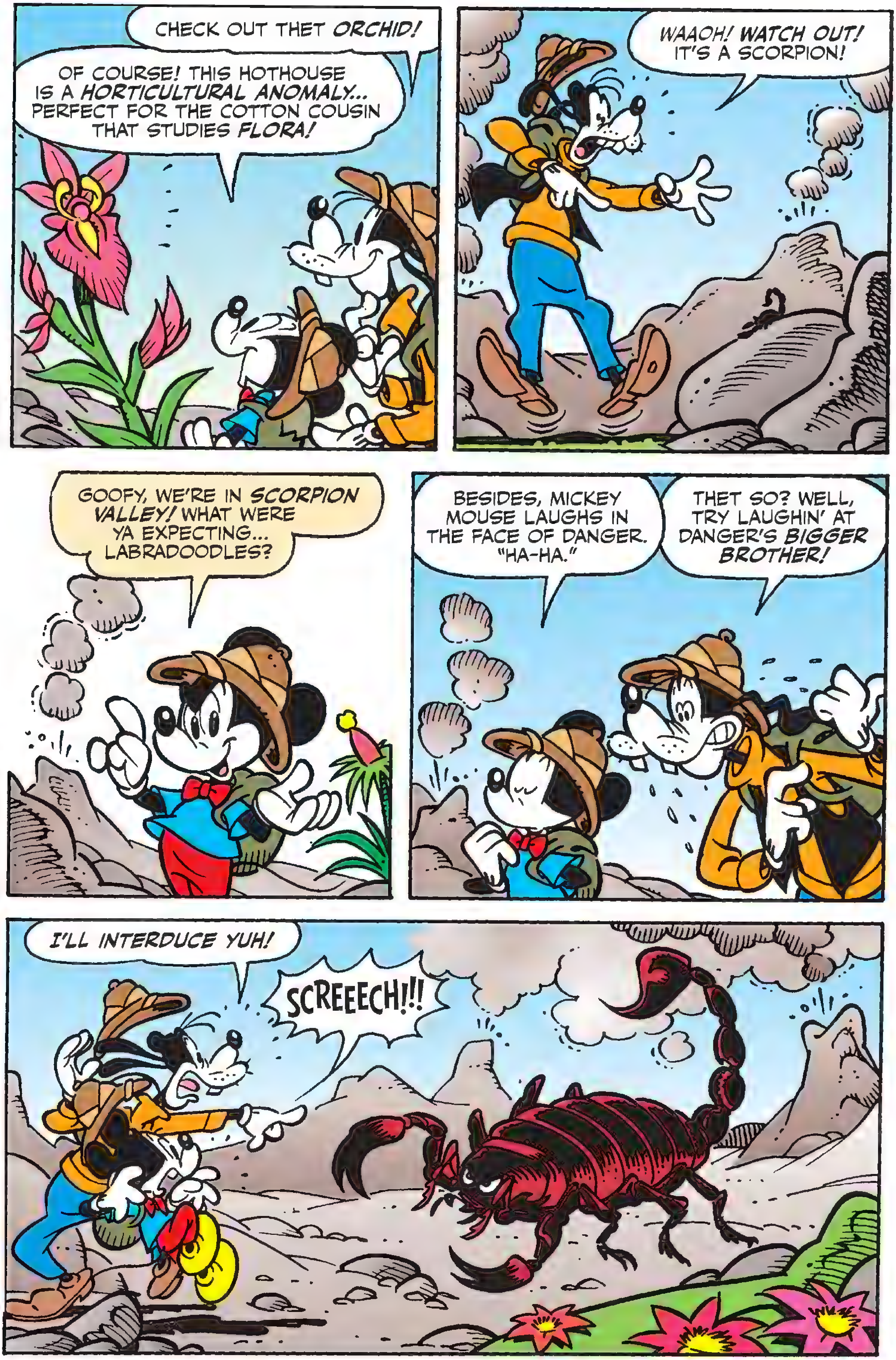

ACTUALLY, SIR, THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE! WE'RE LOOKIN' FOR SOME VISITORS THAT PASSED THROUGH A FEW DAYS AGO!
YOU *TOO?*
WAIT... *OTHERS* ARE LOOKING FOR THEM?!
SI! FIVE STRANGE... WHAT'S THAT WORD... ***MUGS?***
THEY LEFT WITH A CANOE, SO THEIR TRAILS CAN'T BE THAT COLD!
THIS IS BAD, GOOFY! PETE BEAT US HERE WITH A ***WHOLE GANG!***
GULP!
BUT WHO'S HE *WITH?* ...SCUTTLE? SHYSTER? SQUINCH?
LISTEN TO ONE WISER THAN YOU: *DO NOT FOLLOW THEIR PATH!*
SCORPION VALLEY... IT IS A *HORRIBLE PLACE!* OVERRUN WITH BLIGHTS, TERRORS AND TERRORED BLIGHTS! EVEN THE *TRAIL* THERE IS FRAUGHT WITH EVIL!

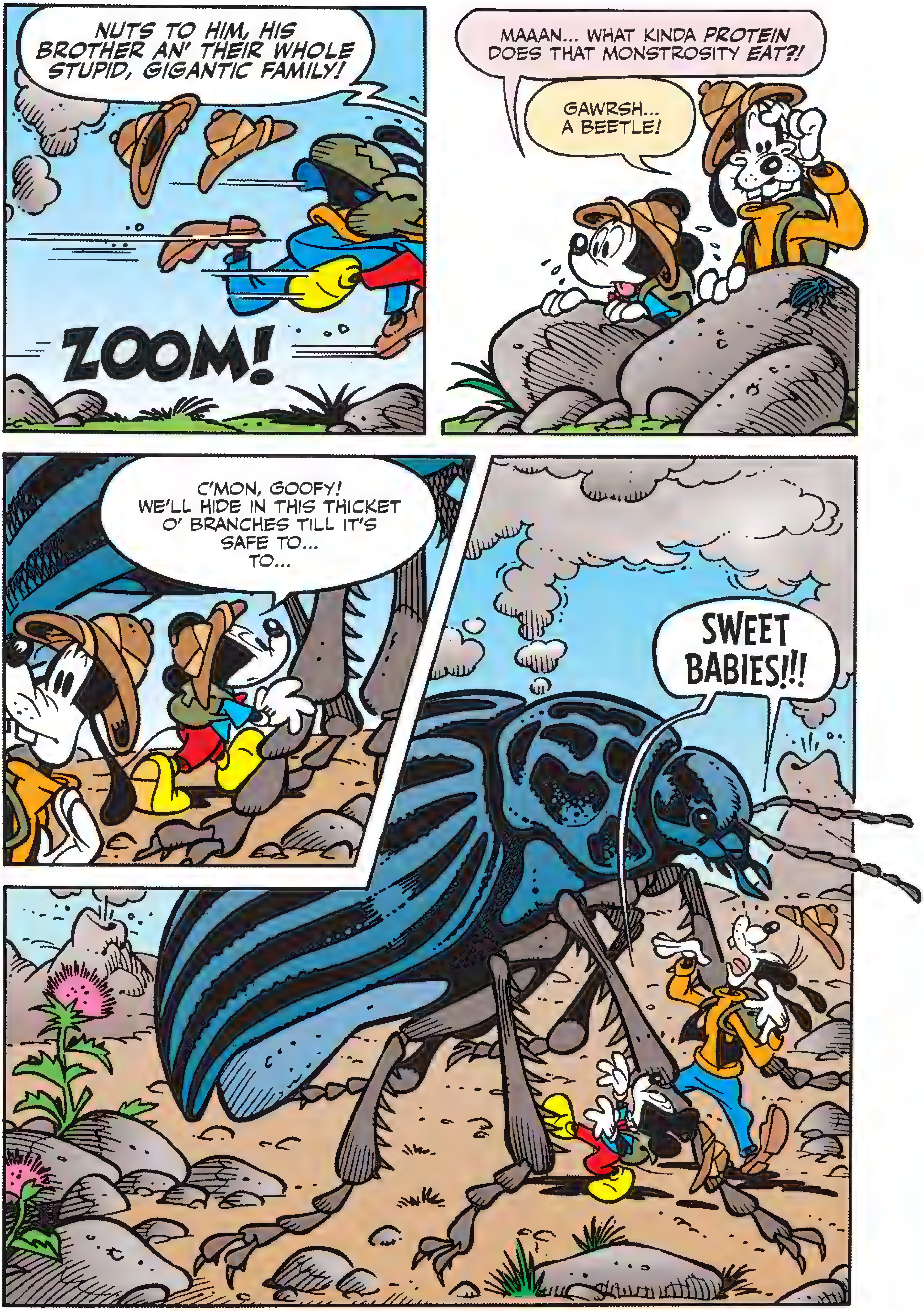

EVIL GIVES ME A RASH! LET'S HEAD HOME, MICK!
I CAN'T, GOOF. IT'S MY FAULT PETE LEARNED ABOUT TH' ZODIAC STONE. HE MUSTN'T GET ITS POWER–
SO I HAVE NO CHOICE! THANK YOU, CHIEF!
THEN GOODBYE, MY FRIENDS...
DAWN RISES AFTER A LONG, EERIE NIGHT OF ROWING!
END O' THE DISTRIBUTARY, PAL! WE'LL HAFTA CONTINUE ON FOOT FROM HERE!
SHUDDER! GOOD! I WANNA STAY WITH YUH AN' STOP PETE... BUT I'M SCARED O' THESE DAWGONE MANDIBLES WITH EYES!
YIPE! TH-THERE'S WORSE STUFF TO BE SCARED OF!

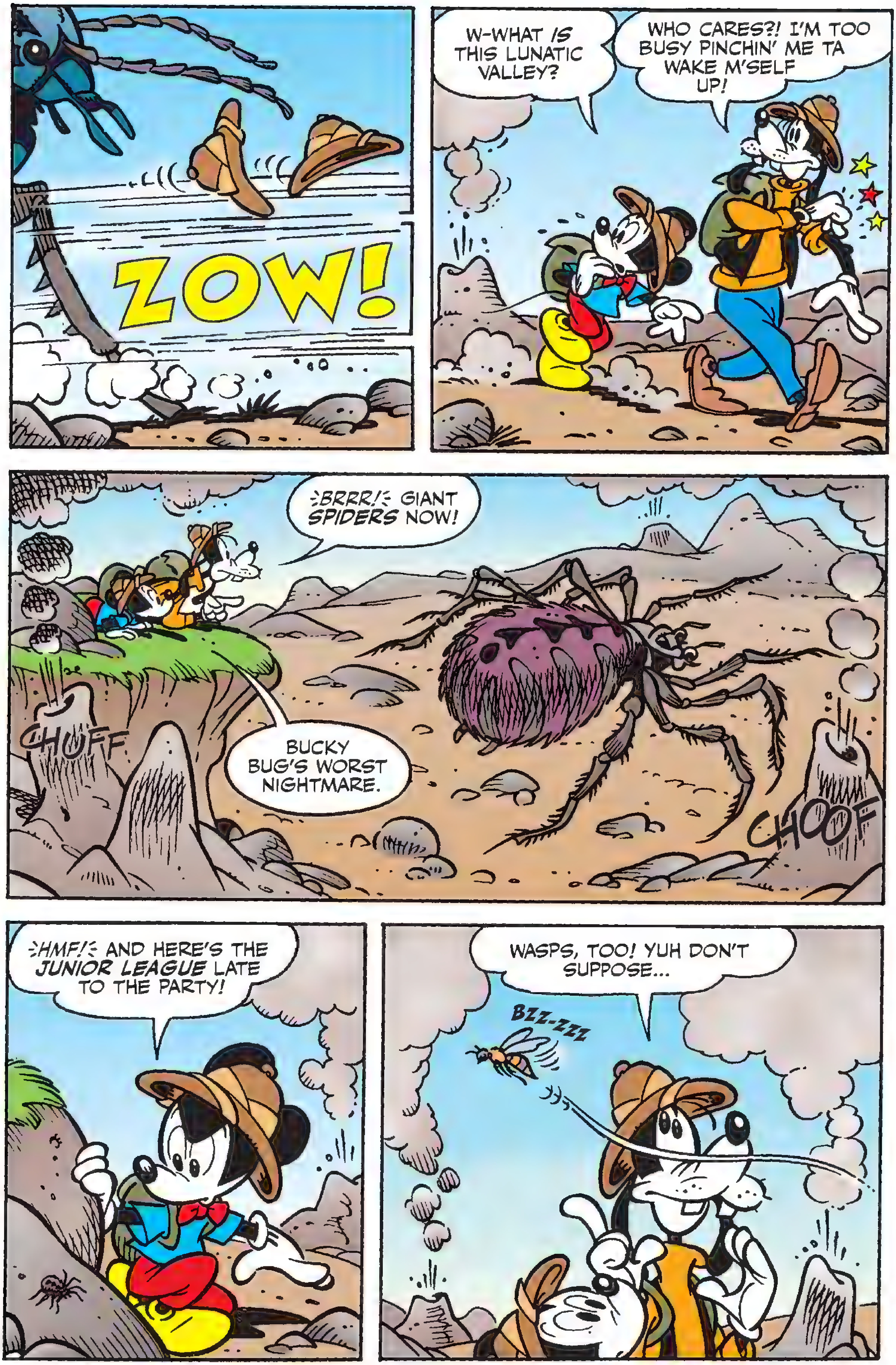

G-G-G-GAWRSH! A HUNGRY COUGAR!!!
RATTLE
RATTLE
SNIFF-SNIFF
M-MAAAN...! I DUNNO IF I OFFEND– BUT BROTHER, I DON'T CARE! SEE YA NEVER!
:H-HEH!: I GUESS THAT OVERGROWN KITTY-DITTY'S A FRIEND O' MAN, HUH?
EITHER THAT OR HE ALREADY ET!
WELL, LET'S HOPE HE DIDN'T EAT WHOEVER WAS IN THAT CANOE!

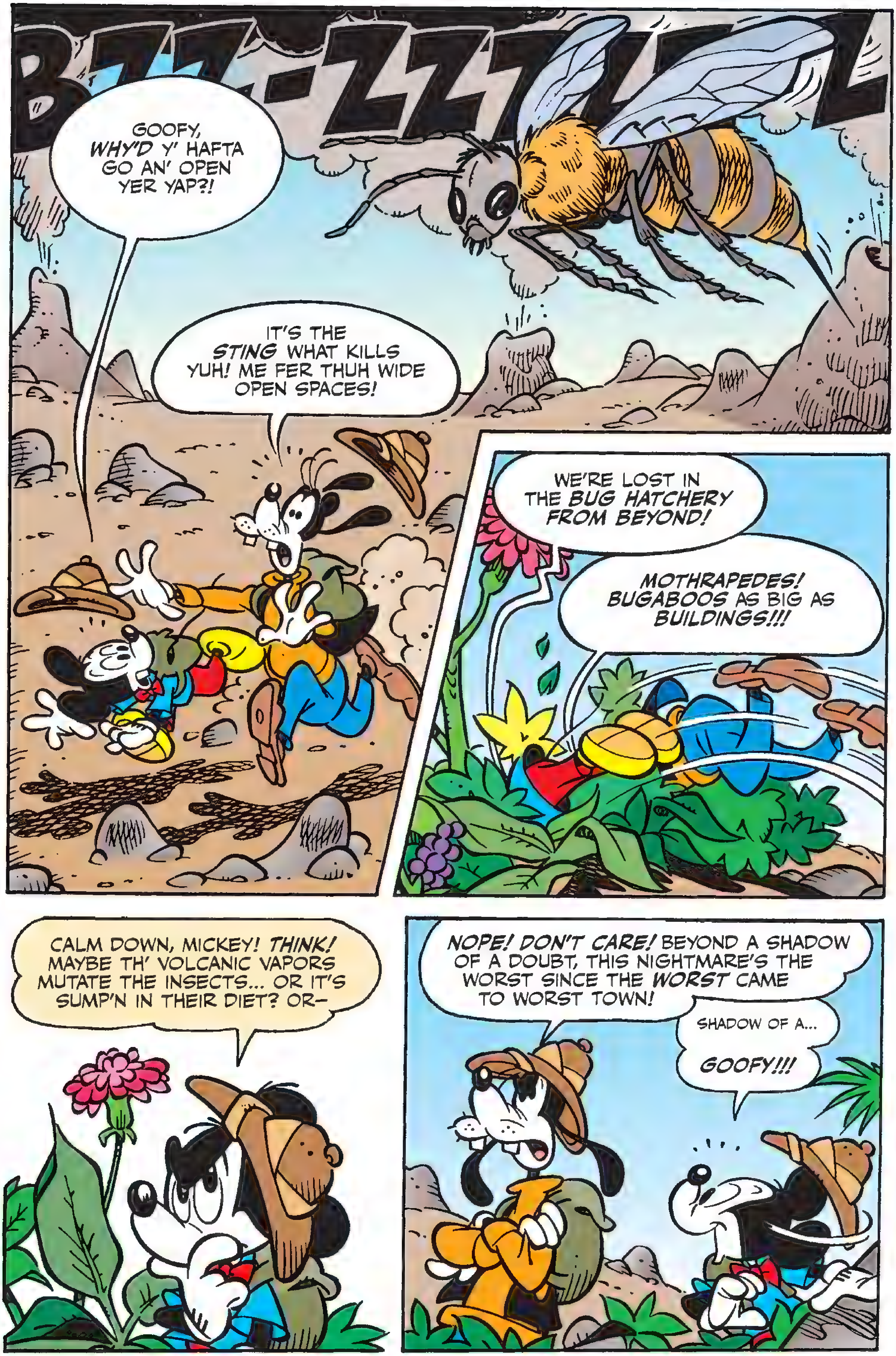

HEY! *ANOTHER* CANOE! ONE FOR THE COTTONS, AN'... ONE FOR...
DOUBLE-TIME, GOOFY! MY *STOMACH* JUST DROPPED... AND IT AIN'T 'CAUSE O' THAT CRAZY PLANE RIDE!
HOURS PASS TILL OUR HEROES FINALLY COME TO...
SCORPION VALLEY... FLOODED WITH FOG. THAT CHIEF WASN'T KIDDIN'! BROTHER, THAT'S *OMINOUS*...
THET AIN'T FOG... IT'S *SMOKE!*

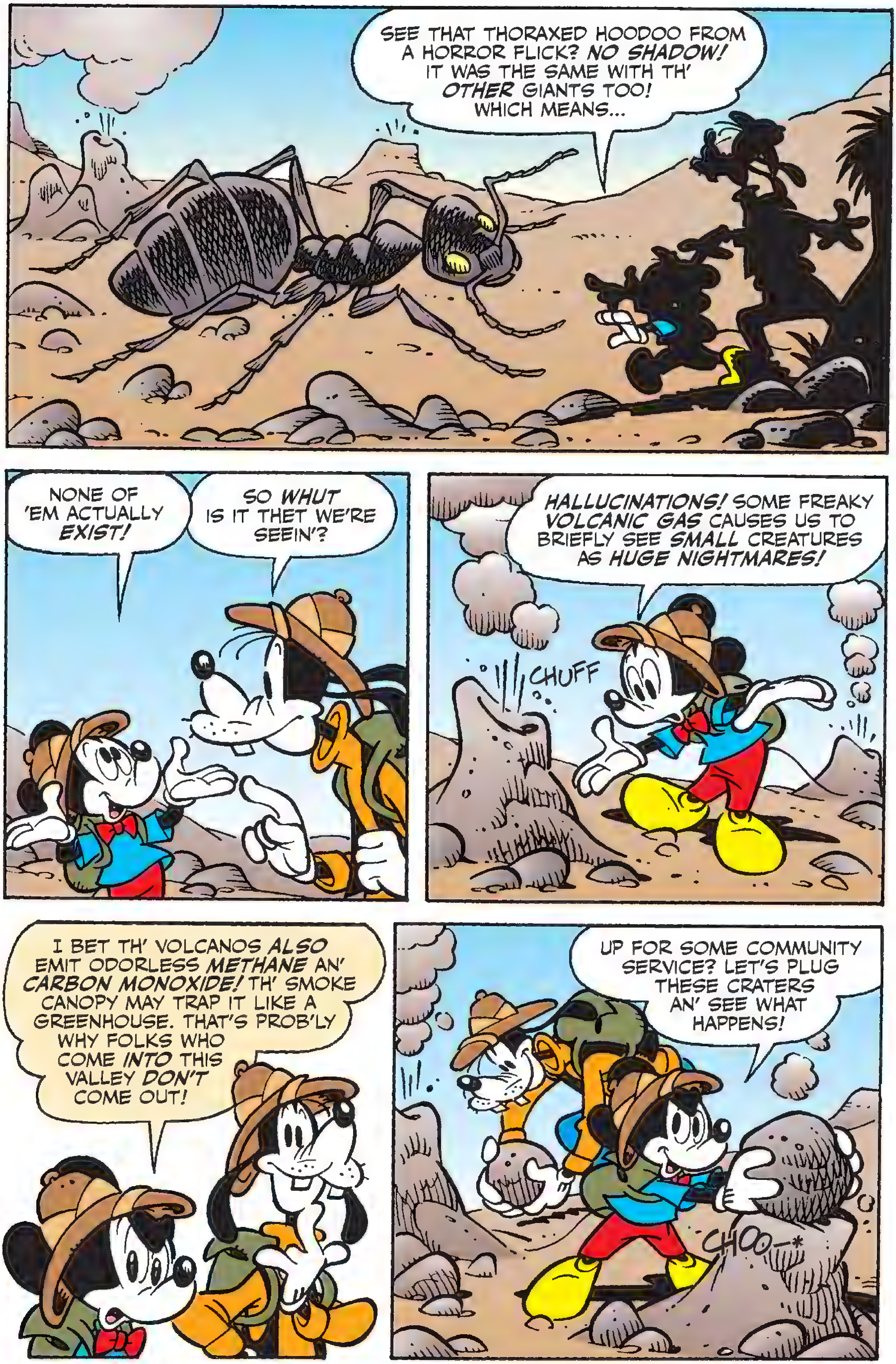

GAWRSH... AN' NOT A SMOKEY-STACK IN SIGHT...
MAYBE... MAYBE THERE *ARE* SMOKESTACKS?!
GIT A LOAD O' THAT! *BABY VOLCANOES!*
THEY'RE CALLED *FUMAROLES*. AN' THEIR POOFS O' SMOKE CLOUD TH' WHOLE VALLEY WITH A THICK CANOPY!
CHUFF
CHUFF
CHOOF
SNIFF! SNIFF! SULFUR... AN' SUMP'N SWEET. WHAT IS IT?
CHOOF
CHUFF
DUNNO... BUT I BET THE GAS CHANGES THE VERY NATURE OF THE ECOSYSTEM HERE!

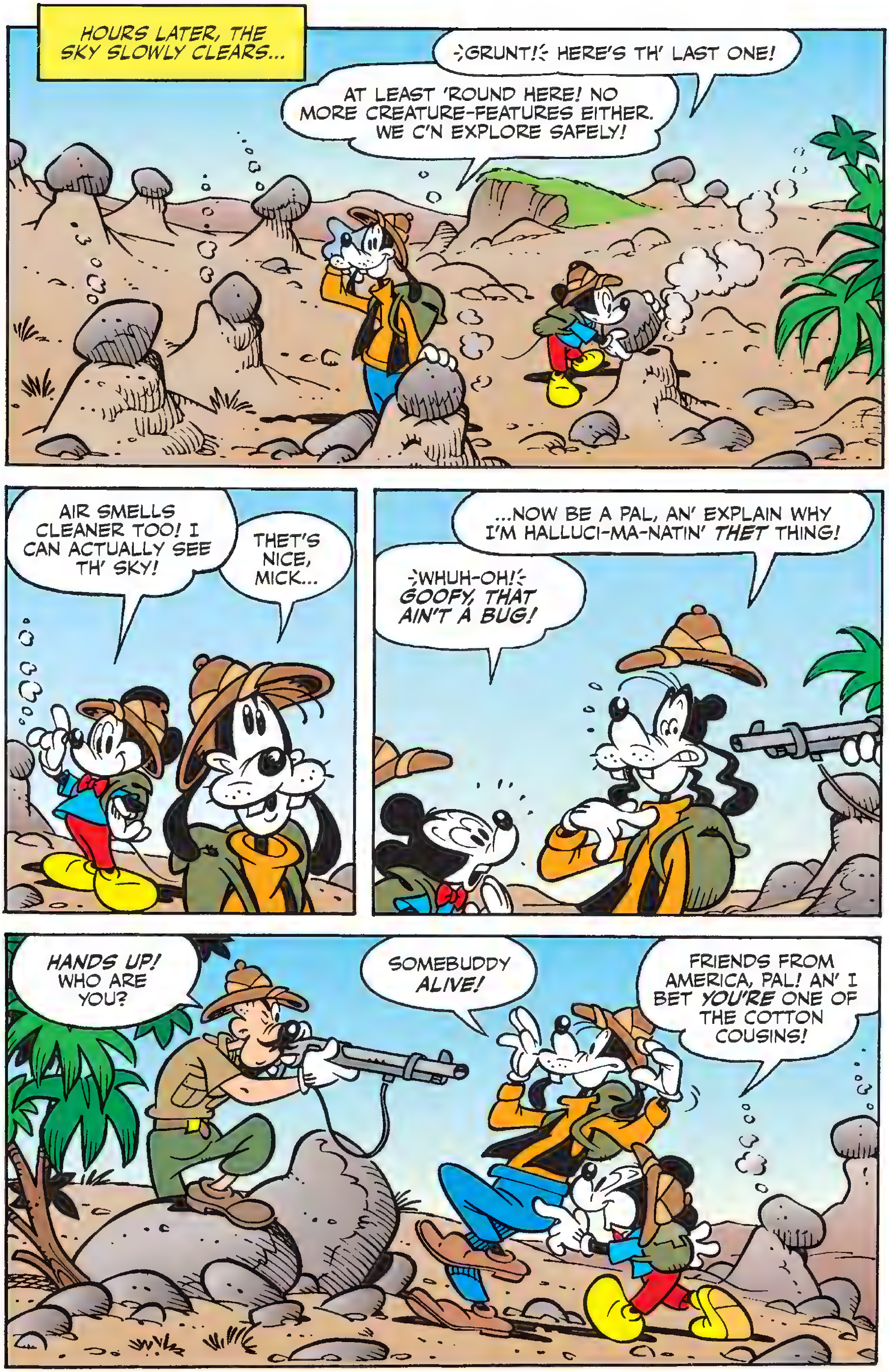

CHECK OUT THET *ORCHID!*
OF COURSE! THIS HOTHOUSE IS A *HORTICULTURAL ANOMALY...* PERFECT FOR THE COTTON COUSIN THAT STUDIES *FLORA!*
WAAOH! WATCH OUT! IT'S A SCORPION!
GOOFY, WE'RE IN *SCORPION VALLEY!* WHAT WERE YA EXPECTING... LABRADOODLES?
BESIDES, MICKEY MOUSE LAUGHS IN THE FACE OF DANGER. "HA-HA."
THET SO? WELL, TRY LAUGHIN' AT DANGER'S *BIGGER BROTHER!*
I'LL INTERDUCE YUH!
SCREEECH!!!

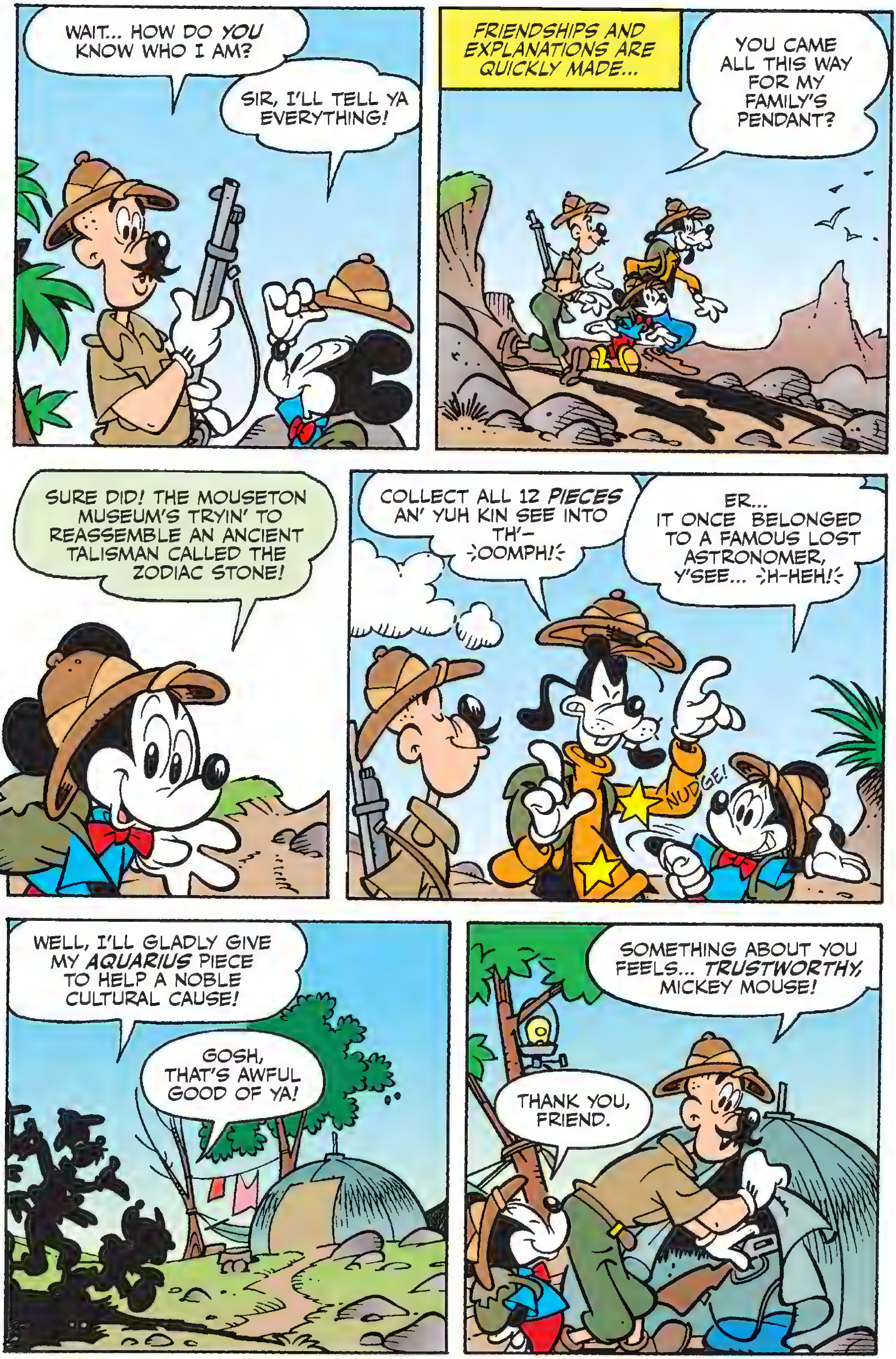

NUTS TO HIM, HIS BROTHER AN' THEIR WHOLE STUPID, GIGANTIC FAMILY!
ZOOM!
MAAAN... WHAT KINDA *PROTEIN* DOES THAT MONSTROSITY *EAT?!*
GAWRSH... A BEETLE!
C'MON, GOOFY! WE'LL HIDE IN THIS THICKET O' BRANCHES TILL IT'S SAFE TO... TO...
SWEET BABIES!!!

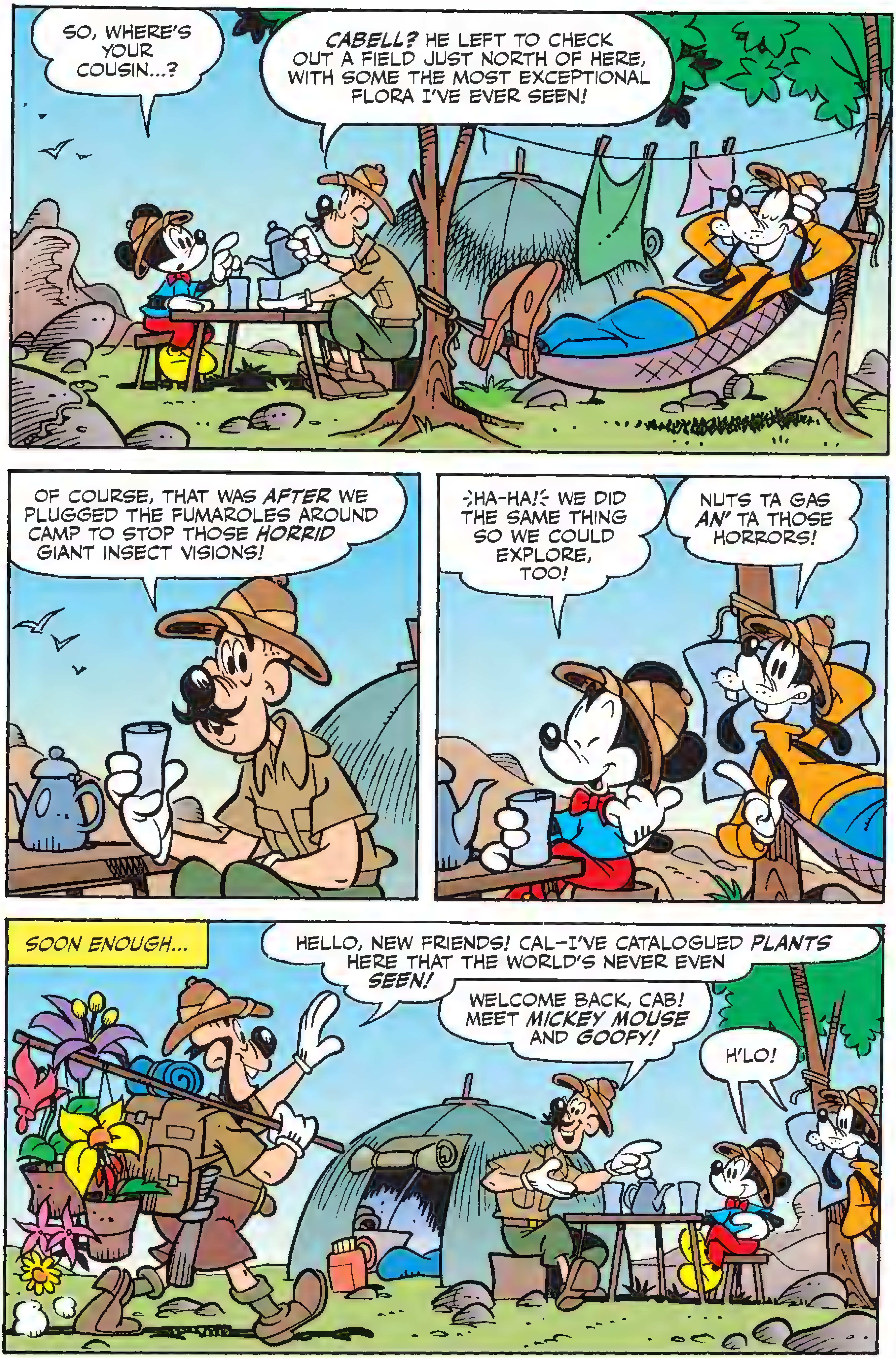

ZOW!
W-WHAT *IS* THIS LUNATIC VALLEY?
WHO CARES?! I'M TOO BUSY PINCHIN' ME TA WAKE M'SELF UP!
:BRRR!: GIANT *SPIDERS* NOW!
BUCKY BUG'S WORST NIGHTMARE.
CHUFF
CHOOF
:HMF!: AND HERE'S THE *JUNIOR LEAGUE* LATE TO THE PARTY!
WASPS, TOO! YUH DON'T SUPPOSE...
BZZ-ZZZ

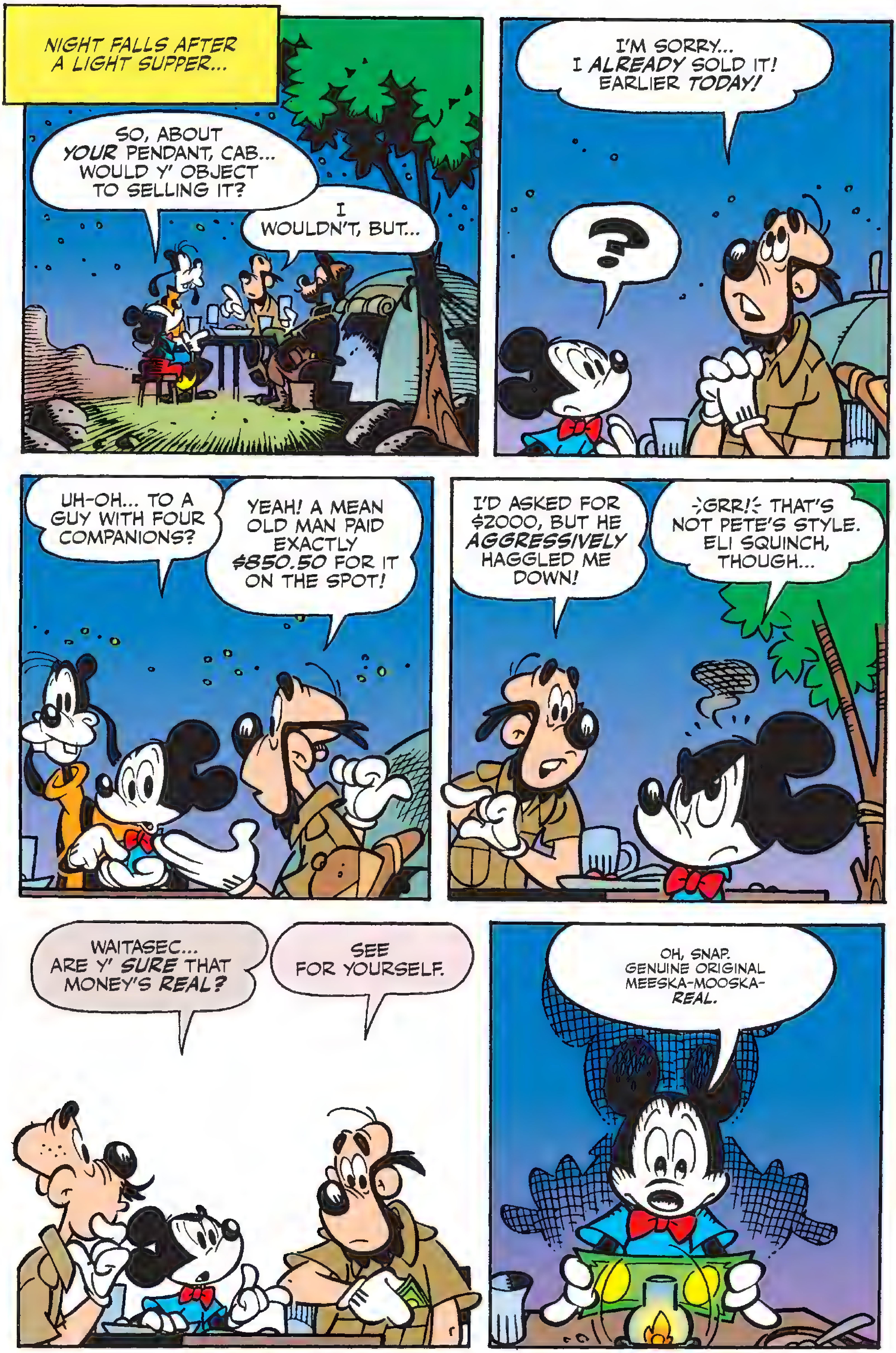

BZZ-ZZZZZZL
GOOFY, *WHY'D* Y' HAFTA GO AN' OPEN YER YAP?!
IT'S THE *STING* WHAT KILLS YUH! ME FER THUH WIDE OPEN SPACES!
WE'RE LOST IN THE *BUG HATCHERY FROM BEYOND!*
MOTHRAPEDES! BUGABOOS AS BIG AS *BUILDINGS!!!*
CALM DOWN, MICKEY! *THINK!* MAYBE TH' VOLCANIC VAPORS MUTATE THE INSECTS... OR IT'S SUMP'N IN THEIR DIET? OR–
NOPE! DON'T CARE! BEYOND A SHADOW OF A DOUBT, THIS NIGHTMARE'S THE WORST SINCE THE *WORST* CAME TO WORST TOWN!
SHADOW OF A...
GOOFY!!!

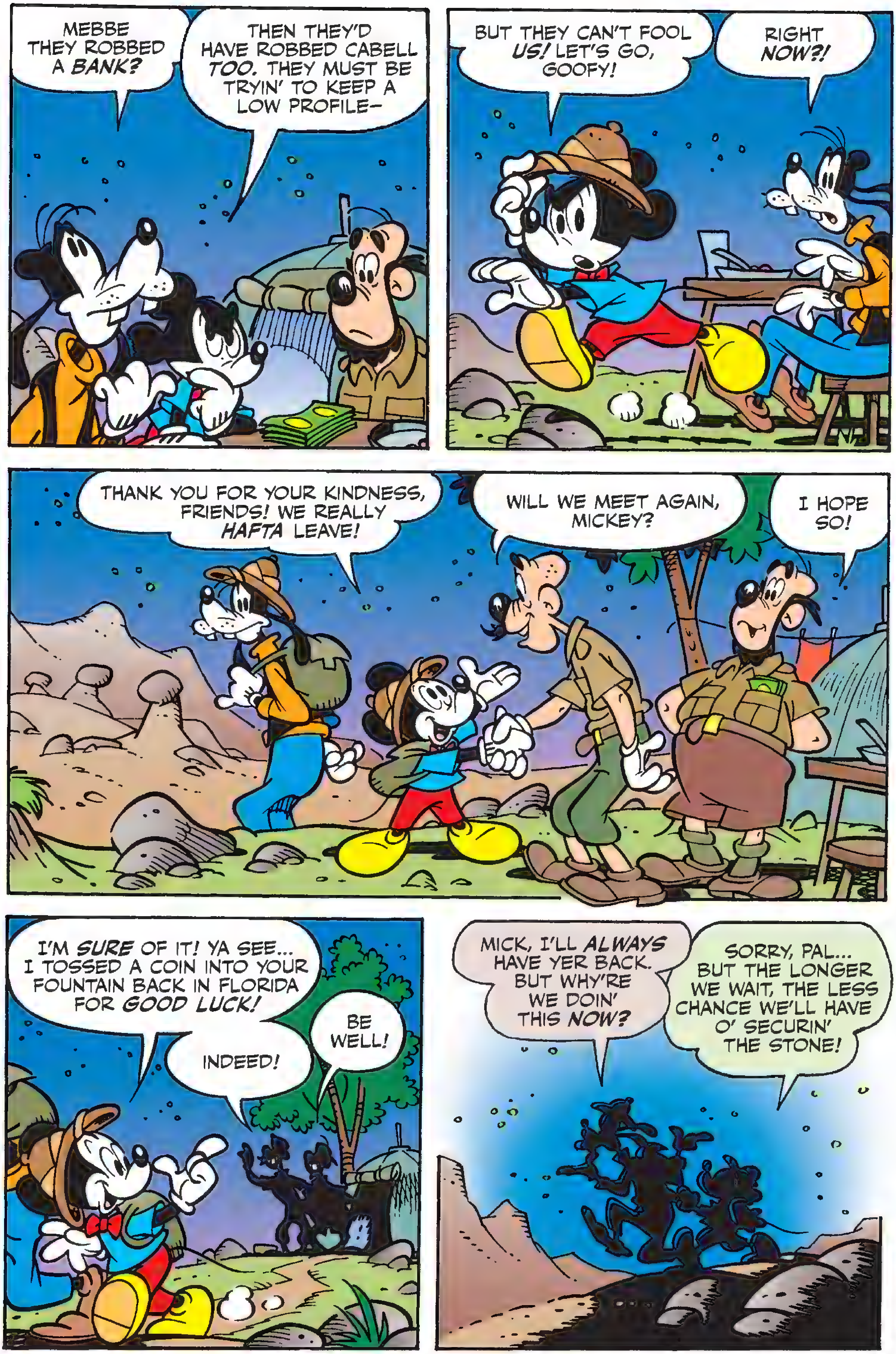

SEE THAT THORAXED HOODOO FROM A HORROR FLICK? NO SHADOW! IT WAS THE SAME WITH TH' OTHER GIANTS TOO! WHICH MEANS...
NONE OF 'EM ACTUALLY EXIST!
SO WHUT IS IT THET WE'RE SEEIN'?
HALLUCINATIONS! SOME FREAKY VOLCANIC GAS CAUSES US TO BRIEFLY SEE SMALL CREATURES AS HUGE NIGHTMARES!
CHUFF
I BET TH' VOLCANOS ALSO EMIT ODORLESS METHANE AN' CARBON MONOXIDE! TH' SMOKE CANOPY MAY TRAP IT LIKE A GREENHOUSE. THAT'S PROB'LY WHY FOLKS WHO COME INTO THIS VALLEY DON'T COME OUT!
UP FOR SOME COMMUNITY SERVICE? LET'S PLUG THESE CRATERS AN' SEE WHAT HAPPENS!
CHOO—*

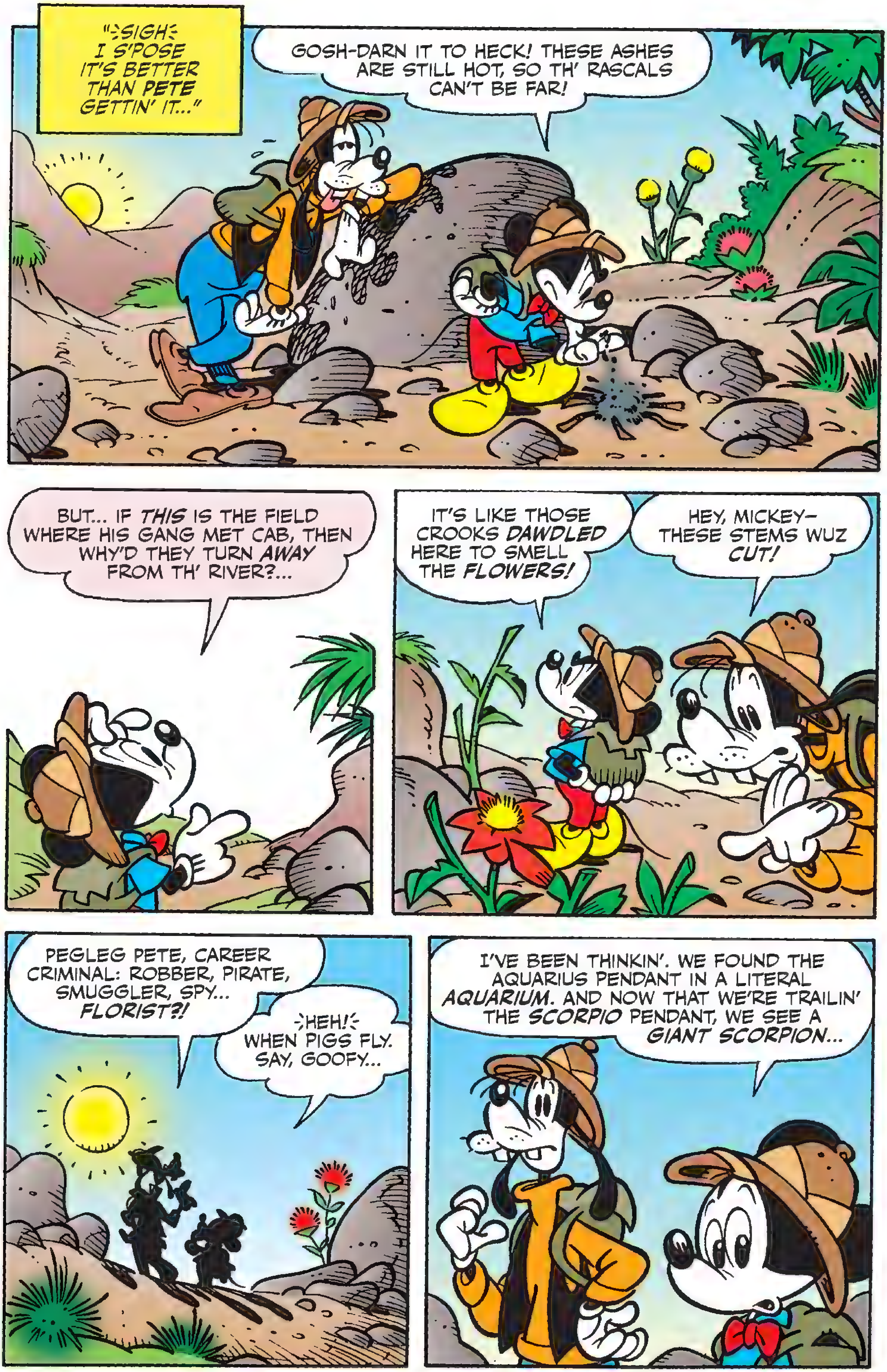

HOURS LATER, THE SKY SLOWLY CLEARS...
-GRUNT!- HERE'S TH' LAST ONE!
AT LEAST 'ROUND HERE! NO MORE CREATURE-FEATURES EITHER. WE C'N EXPLORE SAFELY!
AIR SMELLS CLEANER TOO! I CAN ACTUALLY SEE TH' SKY!
THET'S NICE, MICK...
...NOW BE A PAL, AN' EXPLAIN WHY I'M HALLUCI-MA-NATIN' *THET* THING!
-WHUH-OH!- *GOOFY, THAT AIN'T A BUG!*
HANDS UP! WHO ARE YOU?
SOMEBUDDY *ALIVE!*
FRIENDS FROM AMERICA, PAL! AN' I BET *YOU'RE* ONE OF THE COTTON COUSINS!

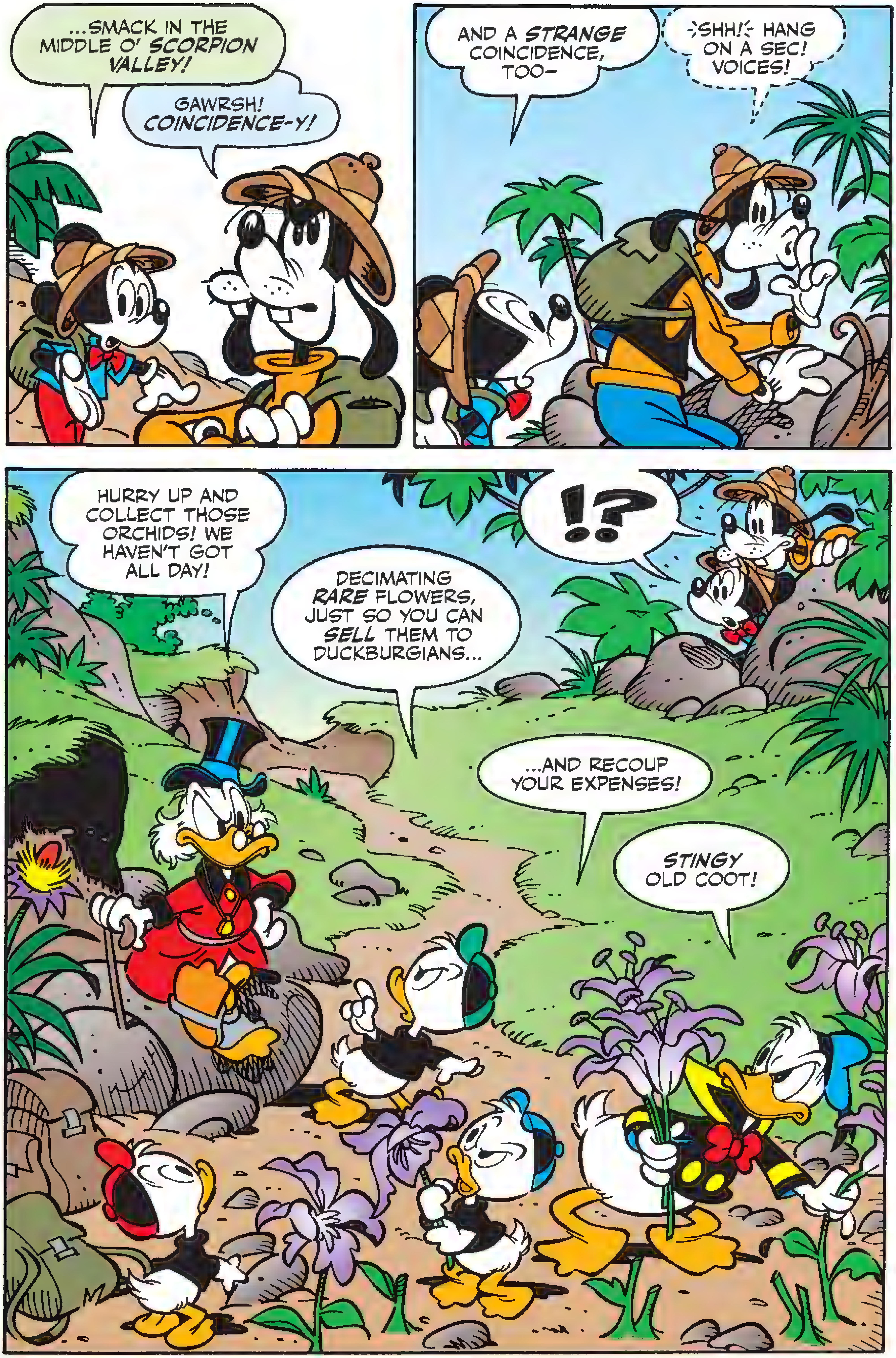

WAIT... HOW DO *YOU* KNOW WHO I AM?
SIR, I'LL TELL YA EVERYTHING!
FRIENDSHIPS AND EXPLANATIONS ARE QUICKLY MADE...
YOU CAME ALL THIS WAY FOR MY FAMILY'S PENDANT?
SURE DID! THE MOUSETON MUSEUM'S TRYIN' TO REASSEMBLE AN ANCIENT TALISMAN CALLED THE ZODIAC STONE!
COLLECT ALL 12 *PIECES* AN' YUH KIN SEE INTO TH'— OOMPH!
NUDGE!
ER... IT ONCE BELONGED TO A FAMOUS LOST ASTRONOMER, Y'SEE... H-HEH!
WELL, I'LL GLADLY GIVE MY *AQUARIUS* PIECE TO HELP A NOBLE CULTURAL CAUSE!
GOSH, THAT'S AWFUL GOOD OF YA!
SOMETHING ABOUT YOU FEELS... *TRUSTWORTHY*, MICKEY MOUSE!
THANK YOU, FRIEND.

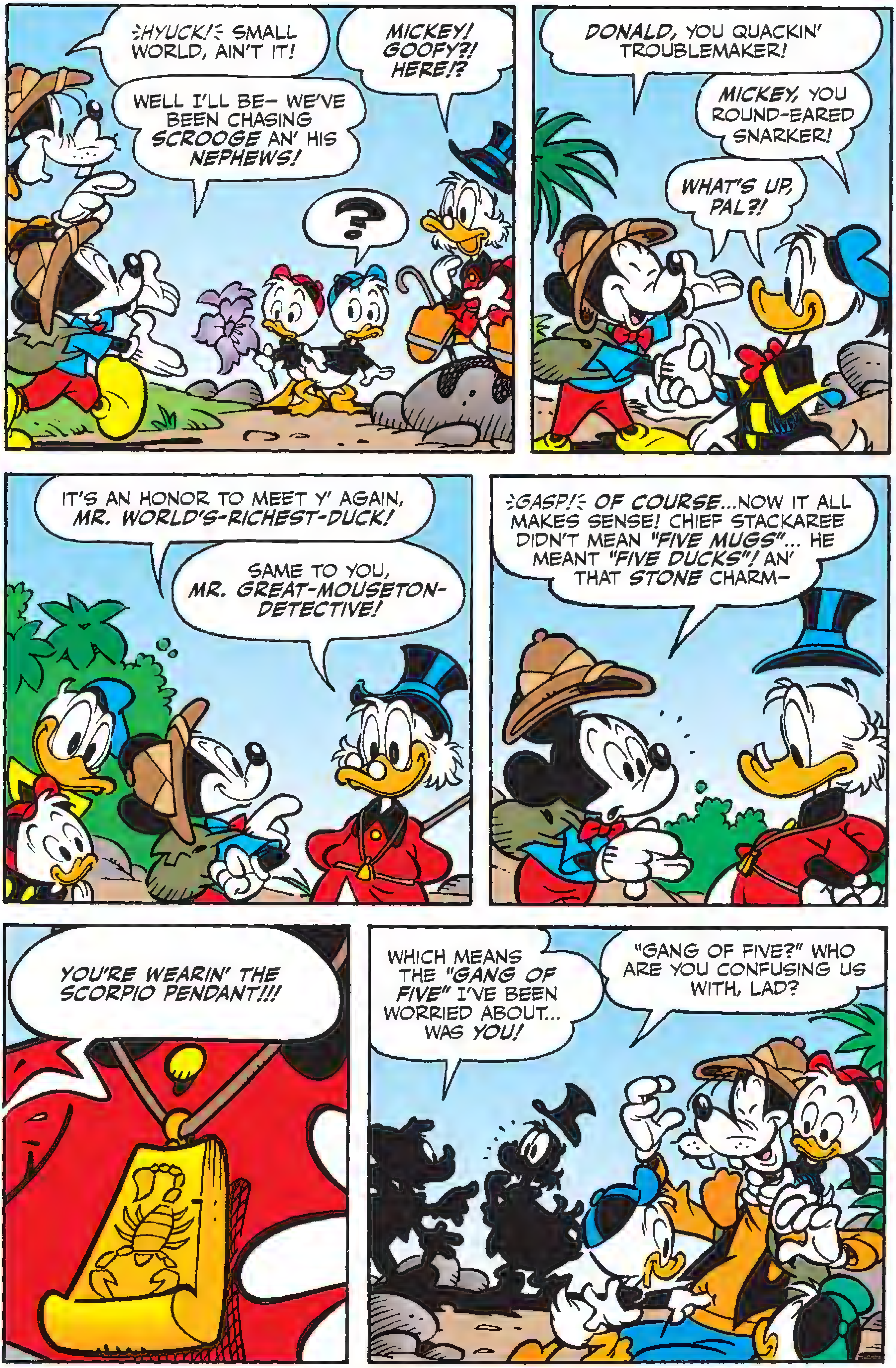

SO, WHERE'S YOUR COUSIN...?
CABELL? HE LEFT TO CHECK OUT A FIELD JUST NORTH OF HERE, WITH SOME THE MOST EXCEPTIONAL FLORA I'VE EVER SEEN!
OF COURSE, THAT WAS *AFTER* WE PLUGGED THE FUMAROLES AROUND CAMP TO STOP THOSE *HORRID* GIANT INSECT VISIONS!
HA-HA! WE DID THE SAME THING SO WE COULD EXPLORE, TOO!
NUTS TA GAS *AN'* TA THOSE HORRORS!
SOON ENOUGH...
HELLO, NEW FRIENDS! CAL—I'VE CATALOGUED *PLANTS* HERE THAT THE WORLD'S NEVER EVEN *SEEN!*
WELCOME BACK, CAB! MEET *MICKEY MOUSE* AND *GOOFY!*
H'LO!

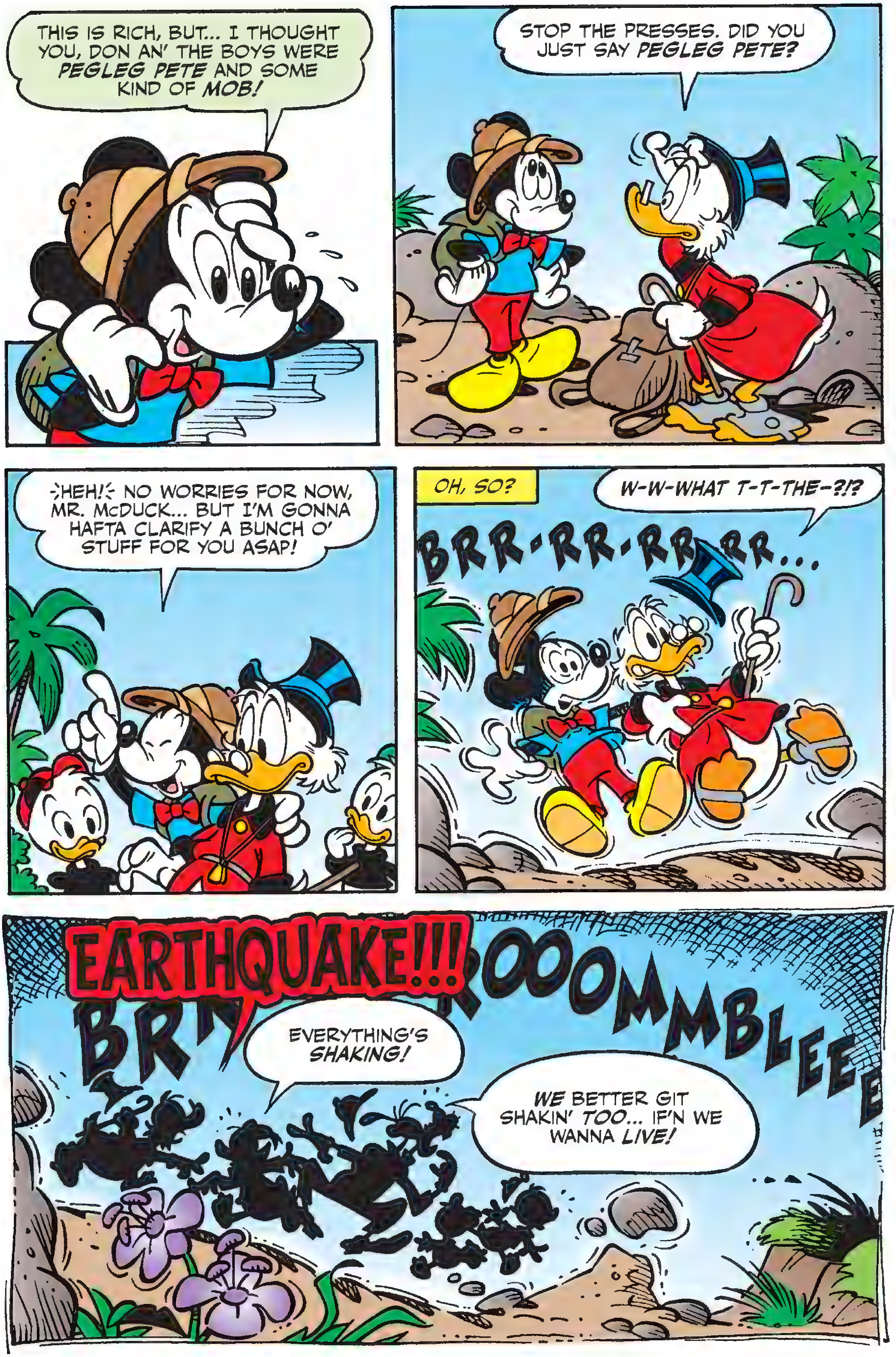

NIGHT FALLS AFTER A LIGHT SUPPER...
SO, ABOUT YOUR PENDANT, CAB... WOULD Y' OBJECT TO SELLING IT?
I WOULDN'T, BUT...
I'M SORRY... I ALREADY SOLD IT! EARLIER TODAY!
?
UH-OH... TO A GUY WITH FOUR COMPANIONS?
YEAH! A MEAN OLD MAN PAID EXACTLY $850.50 FOR IT ON THE SPOT!
I'D ASKED FOR $2000, BUT HE AGGRESSIVELY HAGGLED ME DOWN!
GRR! THAT'S NOT PETE'S STYLE. ELI SQUINCH, THOUGH...
WAITASEC... ARE Y' SURE THAT MONEY'S REAL?
SEE FOR YOURSELF.
OH, SNAP. GENUINE ORIGINAL MEESKA-MOOSKA-REAL.

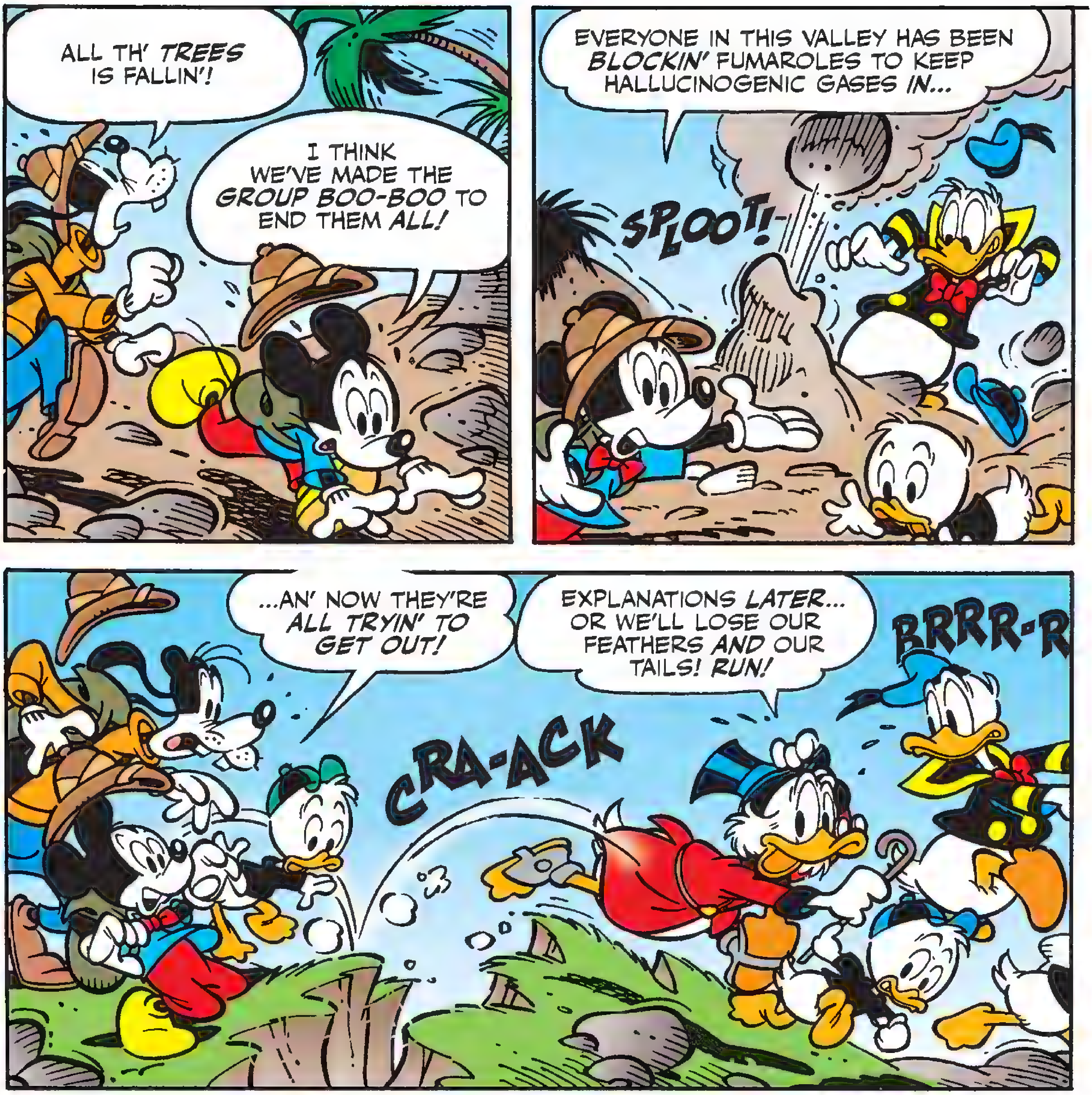

MEBBE THEY ROBBED A *BANK?*
THEN THEY'D HAVE ROBBED CABELL *TOO.* THEY MUST BE TRYIN' TO KEEP A LOW PROFILE—
BUT THEY CAN'T FOOL *US!* LET'S GO, GOOFY!
RIGHT *NOW?!*
THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS, FRIENDS! WE REALLY *HAFTA* LEAVE!
WILL WE MEET AGAIN, MICKEY?
I HOPE SO!
I'M *SURE* OF IT! YA SEE... I TOSSED A COIN INTO YOUR FOUNTAIN BACK IN FLORIDA FOR *GOOD LUCK!*
INDEED!
BE WELL!
MICK, I'LL *ALWAYS* HAVE YER BACK. BUT WHY'RE WE DOIN' THIS *NOW?*
SORRY, PAL... BUT THE LONGER WE WAIT, THE LESS CHANCE WE'LL HAVE O' SECURIN' THE STONE!

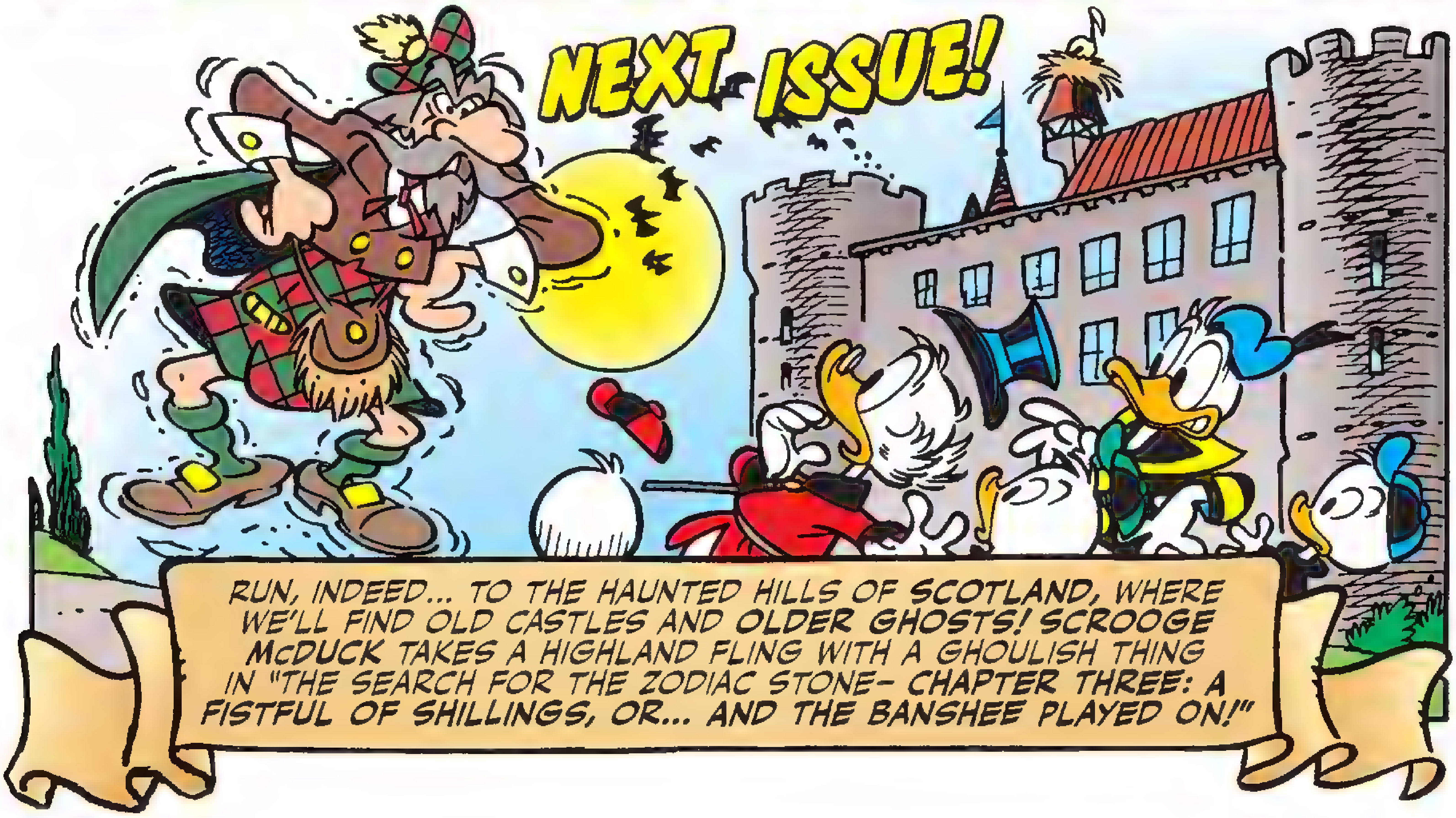

"SIGH I S'POSE IT'S BETTER THAN PETE GETTIN' IT..."
GOSH-DARN IT TO HECK! THESE ASHES ARE STILL HOT, SO TH' RASCALS CAN'T BE FAR!
BUT... IF THIS IS THE FIELD WHERE HIS GANG MET CAB, THEN WHY'D THEY TURN AWAY FROM TH' RIVER?...
IT'S LIKE THOSE CROOKS DAWDLED HERE TO SMELL THE FLOWERS!
HEY, MICKEY— THESE STEMS WUZ CUT!
PEGLEG PETE, CAREER CRIMINAL: ROBBER, PIRATE, SMUGGLER, SPY... FLORIST?!
HEH! WHEN PIGS FLY. SAY, GOOFY...
I'VE BEEN THINKIN'. WE FOUND THE AQUARIUS PENDANT IN A LITERAL AQUARIUM. AND NOW THAT WE'RE TRAILIN' THE SCORPIO PENDANT, WE SEE A GIANT SCORPION...


...SMACK IN THE MIDDLE O' *SCORPION VALLEY!*
GAWRSH! *COINCIDENCE-Y!*
AND A *STRANGE* COINCIDENCE, TOO–
SHH! HANG ON A SEC! VOICES!
HURRY UP AND COLLECT THOSE ORCHIDS! WE HAVEN'T GOT ALL DAY!
DECIMATING *RARE* FLOWERS, JUST SO YOU CAN *SELL* THEM TO DUCKBURGIANS...
!?
...AND RECOUP YOUR EXPENSES!
STINGY OLD COOT!


⁝HYUCK!⁝ SMALL WORLD, AIN'T IT!
MICKEY! GOOFY?! HERE!?
WELL I'LL BE— WE'VE BEEN CHASING SCROOGE AN' HIS NEPHEWS!
?
DONALD, YOU QUACKIN' TROUBLEMAKER!
MICKEY, YOU ROUND-EARED SNARKER!
WHAT'S UP, PAL?!
IT'S AN HONOR TO MEET Y' AGAIN, MR. WORLD'S-RICHEST-DUCK!
SAME TO YOU, MR. GREAT-MOUSETON-DETECTIVE!
⁝GASP!⁝ OF COURSE...NOW IT ALL MAKES SENSE! CHIEF STACKAREE DIDN'T MEAN "FIVE MUGS"... HE MEANT "FIVE DUCKS"! AN' THAT STONE CHARM—
YOU'RE WEARIN' THE SCORPIO PENDANT!!!
WHICH MEANS THE "GANG OF FIVE" I'VE BEEN WORRIED ABOUT... WAS YOU!
"GANG OF FIVE?" WHO ARE YOU CONFUSING US WITH, LAD?

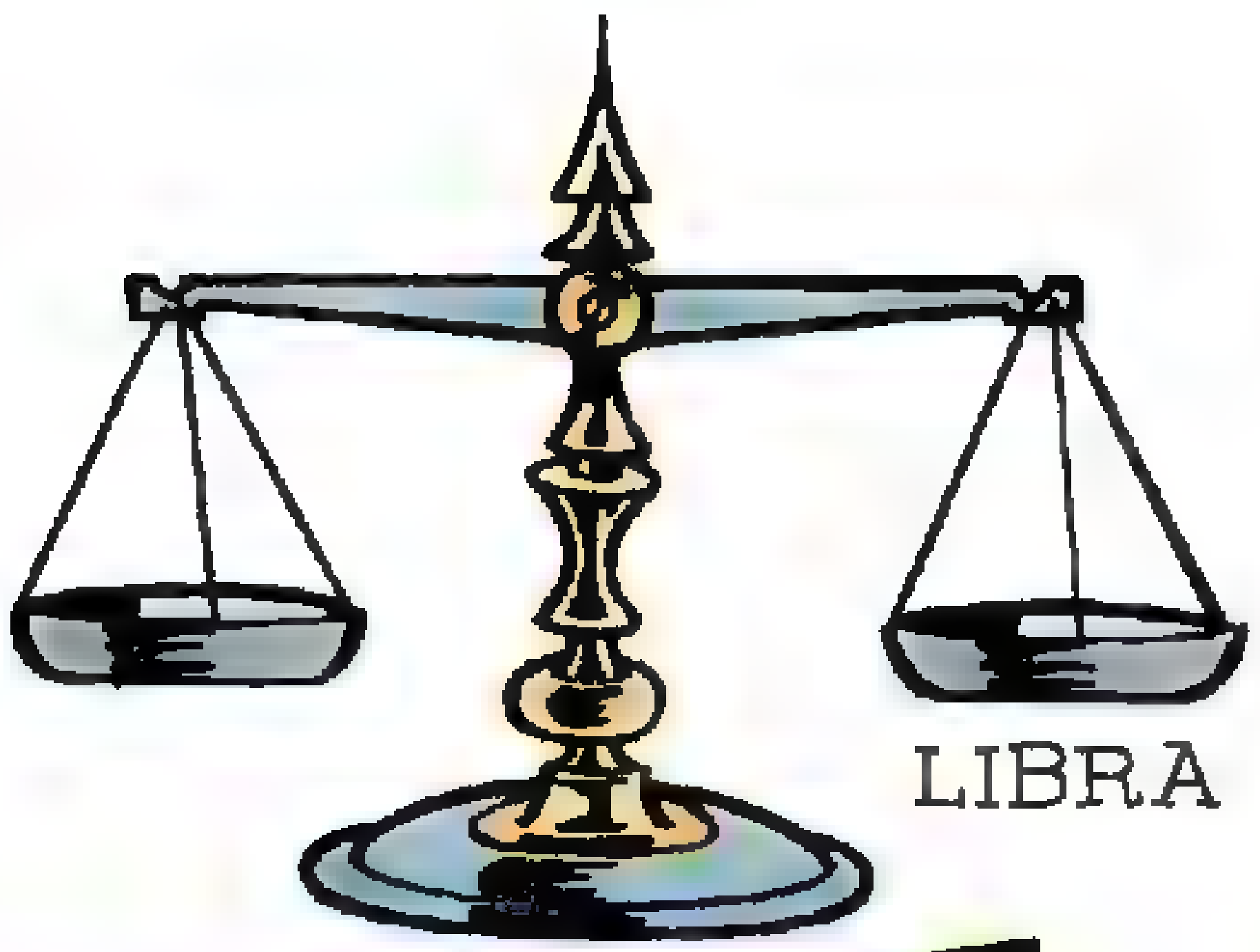

THIS IS RICH, BUT... I THOUGHT YOU, DON AN' THE BOYS WERE *PEGLEG PETE* AND SOME KIND OF *MOB!*
STOP THE PRESSES. DID YOU JUST SAY *PEGLEG PETE?*
HEH! NO WORRIES FOR NOW, MR. McDUCK... BUT I'M GONNA HAFTA CLARIFY A BUNCH O' STUFF FOR YOU ASAP!
OH, SO?
W-W-WHAT T-T-THE-?!?
BRR-RR-RRRRR...
EARTHQUAKE!!!
BRRROOOMMBLEEE
EVERYTHING'S *SHAKING!*
WE BETTER GIT SHAKIN' *TOO*... IF'N WE WANNA *LIVE!*


ALL TH' *TREES* IS FALLIN'!
I THINK WE'VE MADE THE *GROUP BOO-BOO* TO END THEM *ALL!*
EVERYONE IN THIS VALLEY HAS BEEN *BLOCKIN'* FUMAROLES TO KEEP HALLUCINOGENIC GASES *IN...*
SPLOOT!
...AN' NOW THEY'RE *ALL TRYIN' TO GET OUT!*
EXPLANATIONS *LATER*... OR WE'LL LOSE OUR FEATHERS *AND* OUR TAILS! *RUN!*
BRRRR-R
CRA-ACK


NEXT ISSUE!
*RUN, INDEED... TO THE HAUNTED HILLS OF **SCOTLAND**, WHERE WE'LL FIND OLD CASTLES AND **OLDER GHOSTS! SCROOGE McDUCK** TAKES A HIGHLAND FLING WITH A GHOULISH THING IN "THE SEARCH FOR THE ZODIAC STONE– **CHAPTER THREE: A FISTFUL OF SHILLINGS, OR... AND THE BANSHEE PLAYED ON!"***

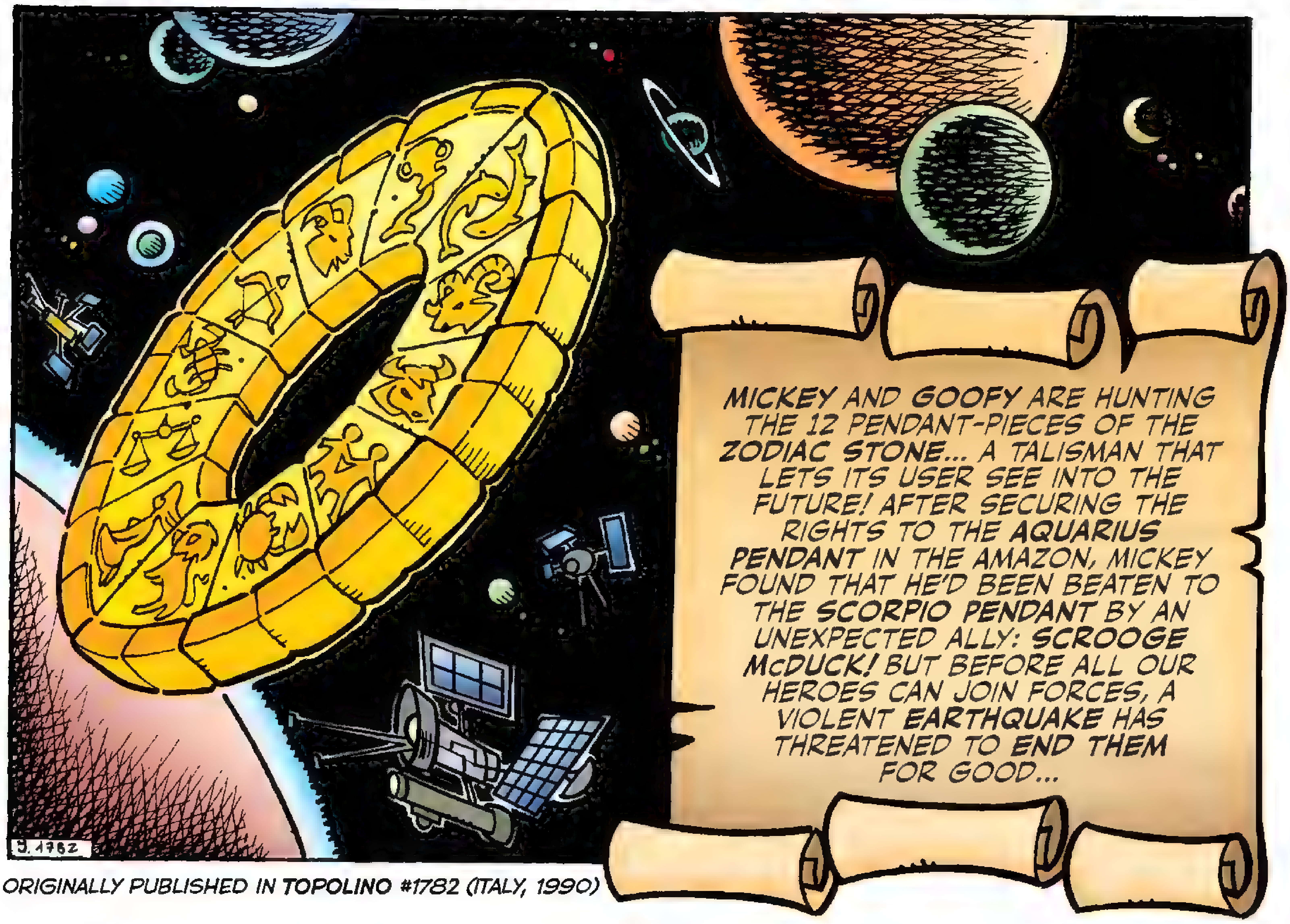
Art by Dave Alvarez, Colors by Derek Charm

WALT DISNEY PRESENTS:



THE SEARCH FOR THE ZODIAC STONE

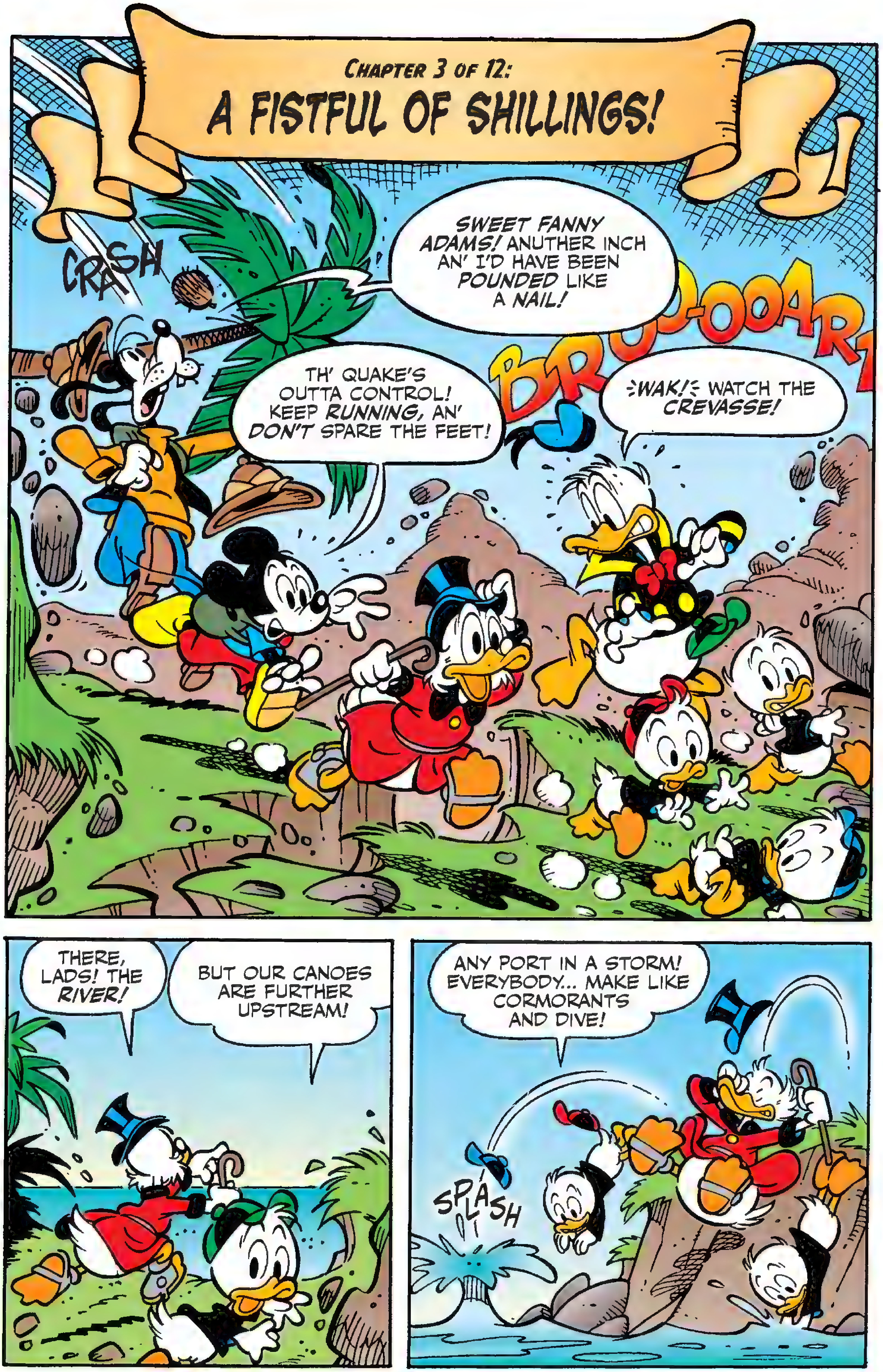
AN EPIC YARN OF MICE AND DUCKS!

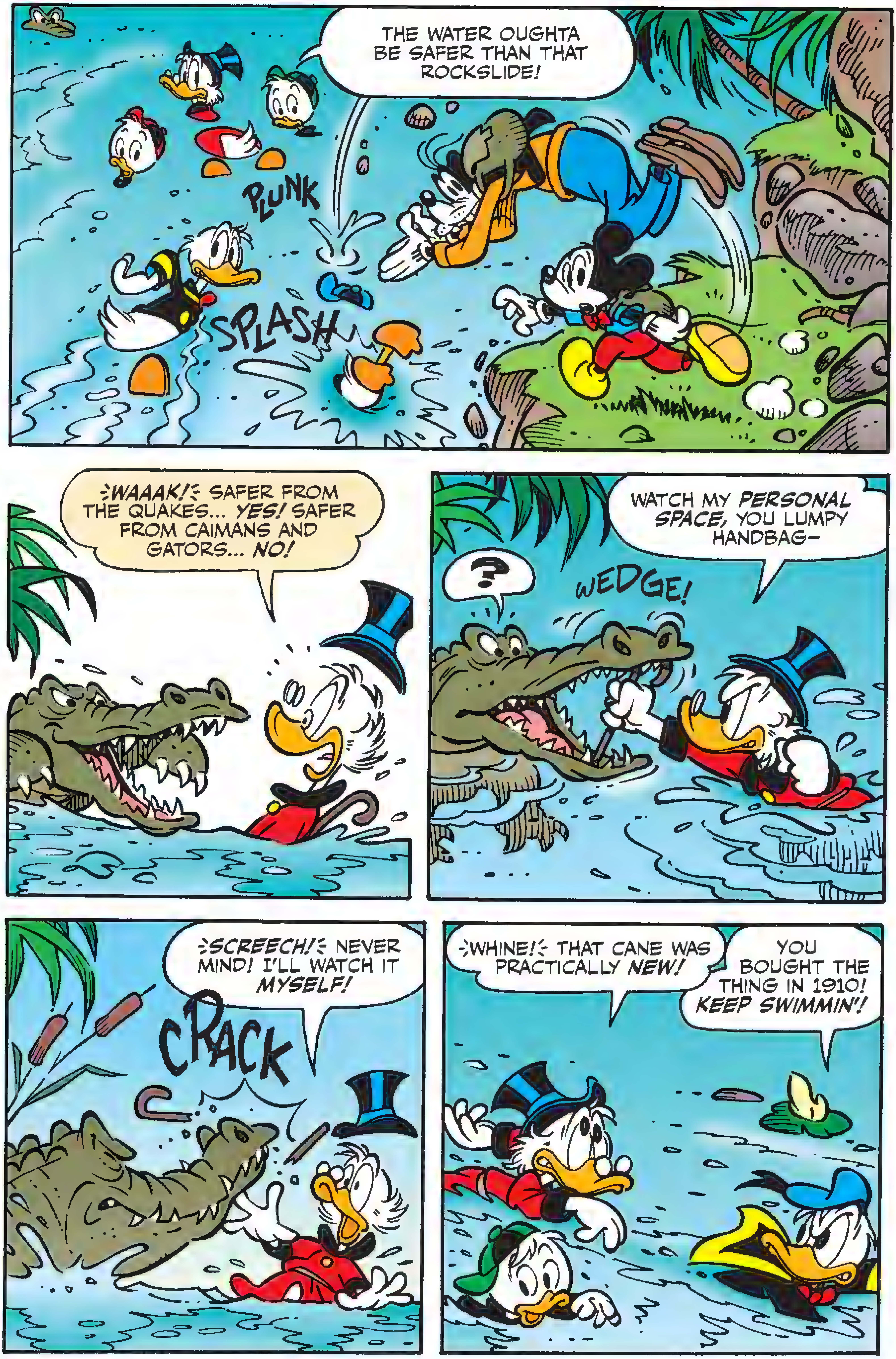

MICKEY AND GOOFY ARE HUNTING THE 12 PENDANT-PIECES OF THE ZODIAC STONE... A TALISMAN THAT LETS ITS USER SEE INTO THE FUTURE! AFTER SECURING THE RIGHTS TO THE AQUARIUS PENDANT IN THE AMAZON, MICKEY FOUND THAT HE'D BEEN BEATEN TO THE SCORPIO PENDANT BY AN UNEXPECTED ALLY: SCROOGE McDUCK! BUT BEFORE ALL OUR HEROES CAN JOIN FORCES, A VIOLENT EARTHQUAKE HAS THREATENED TO END THEM FOR GOOD...
J. 1782

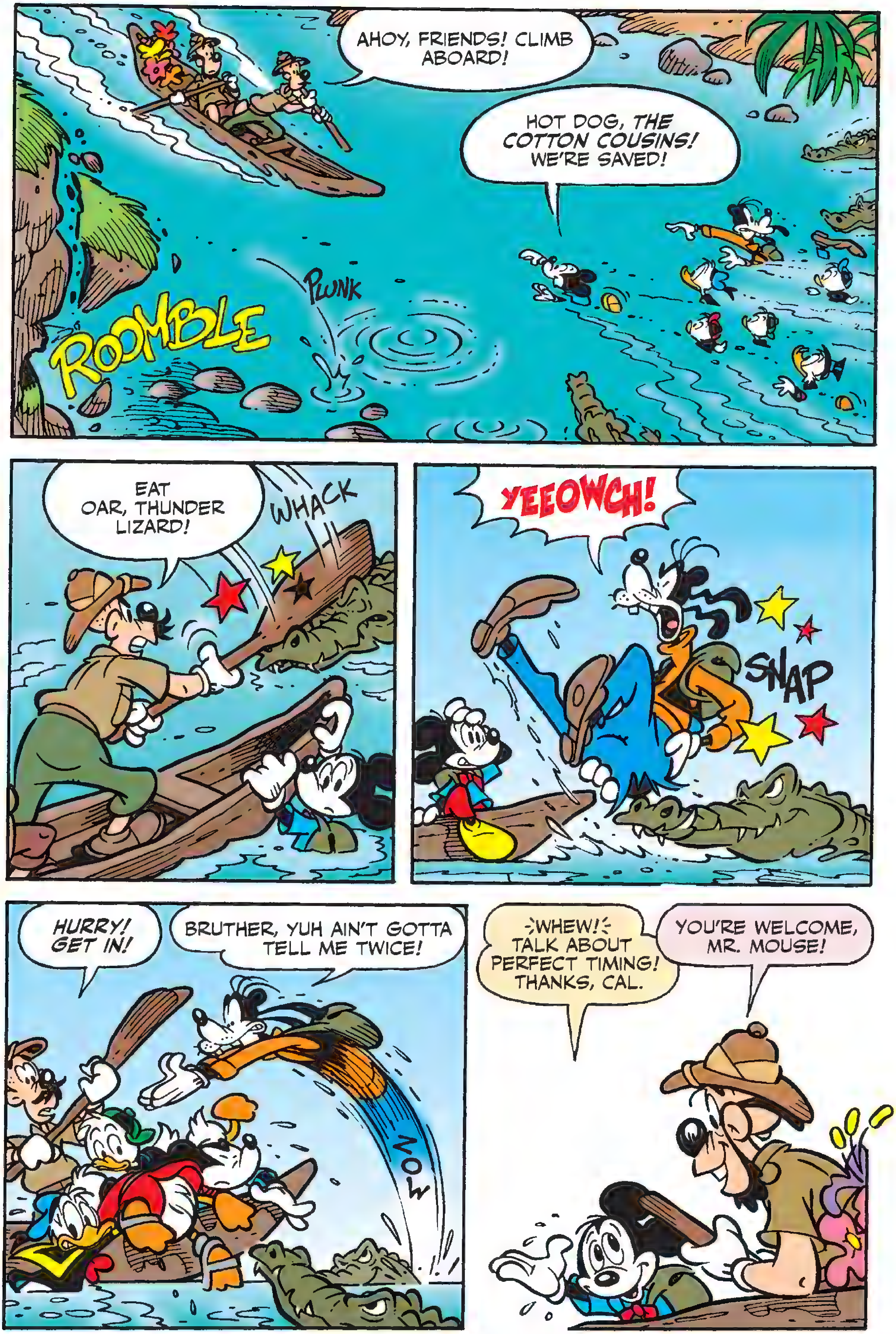
ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN TOPOLINO #1782 (ITALY, 1990)

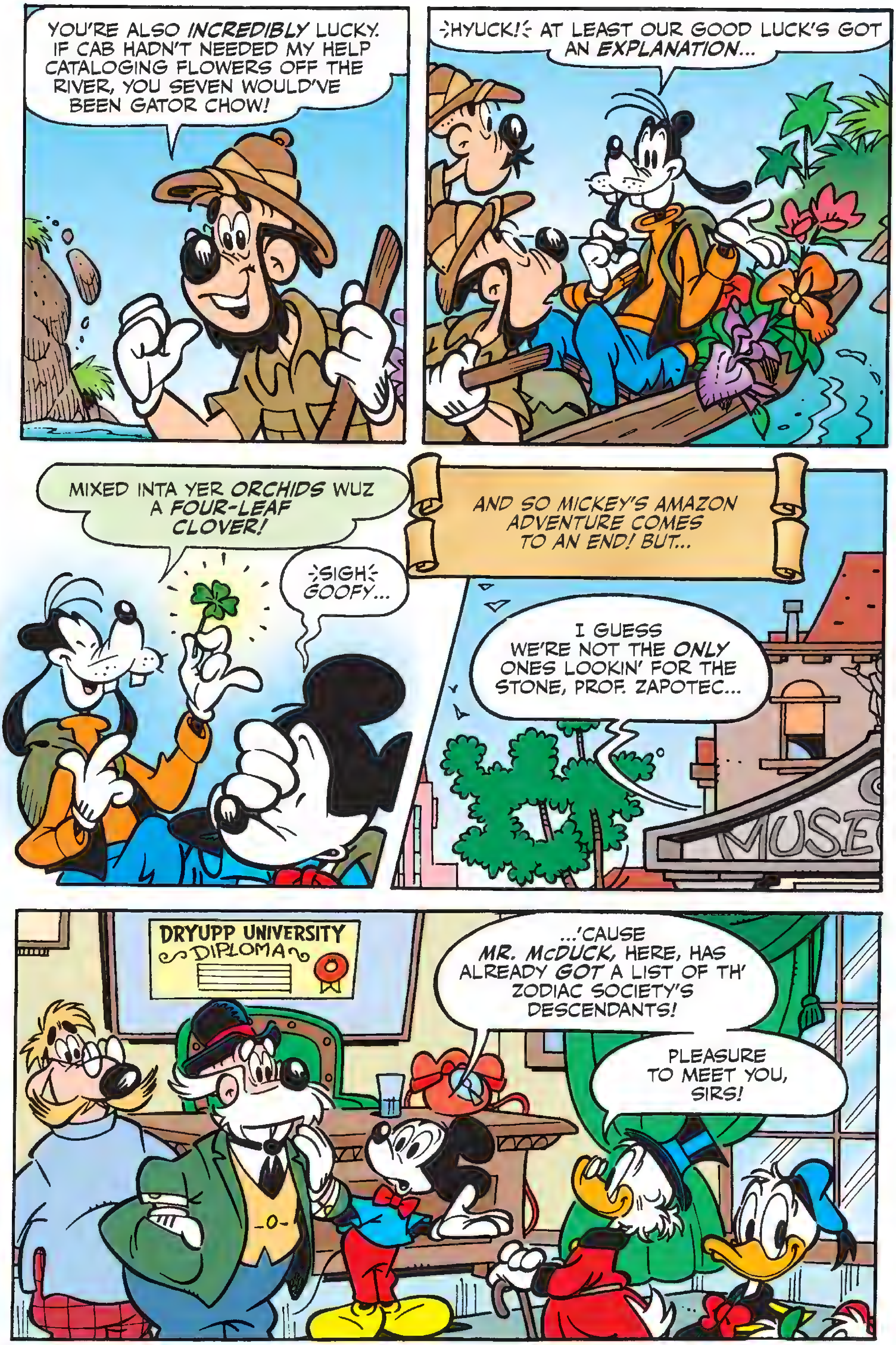
CHAPTER 3 OF 12:

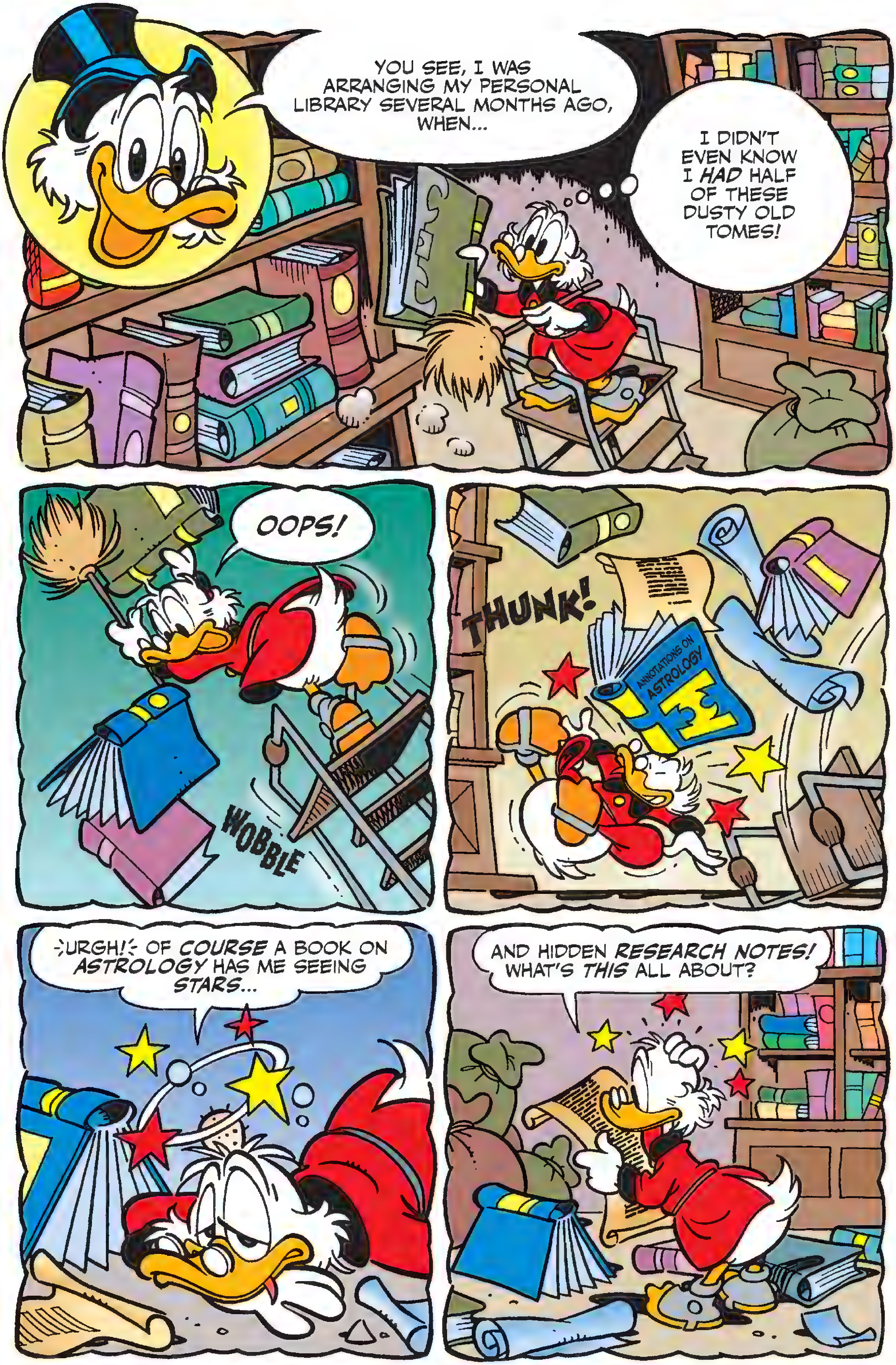
A FISTFUL OF SHILLINGS!

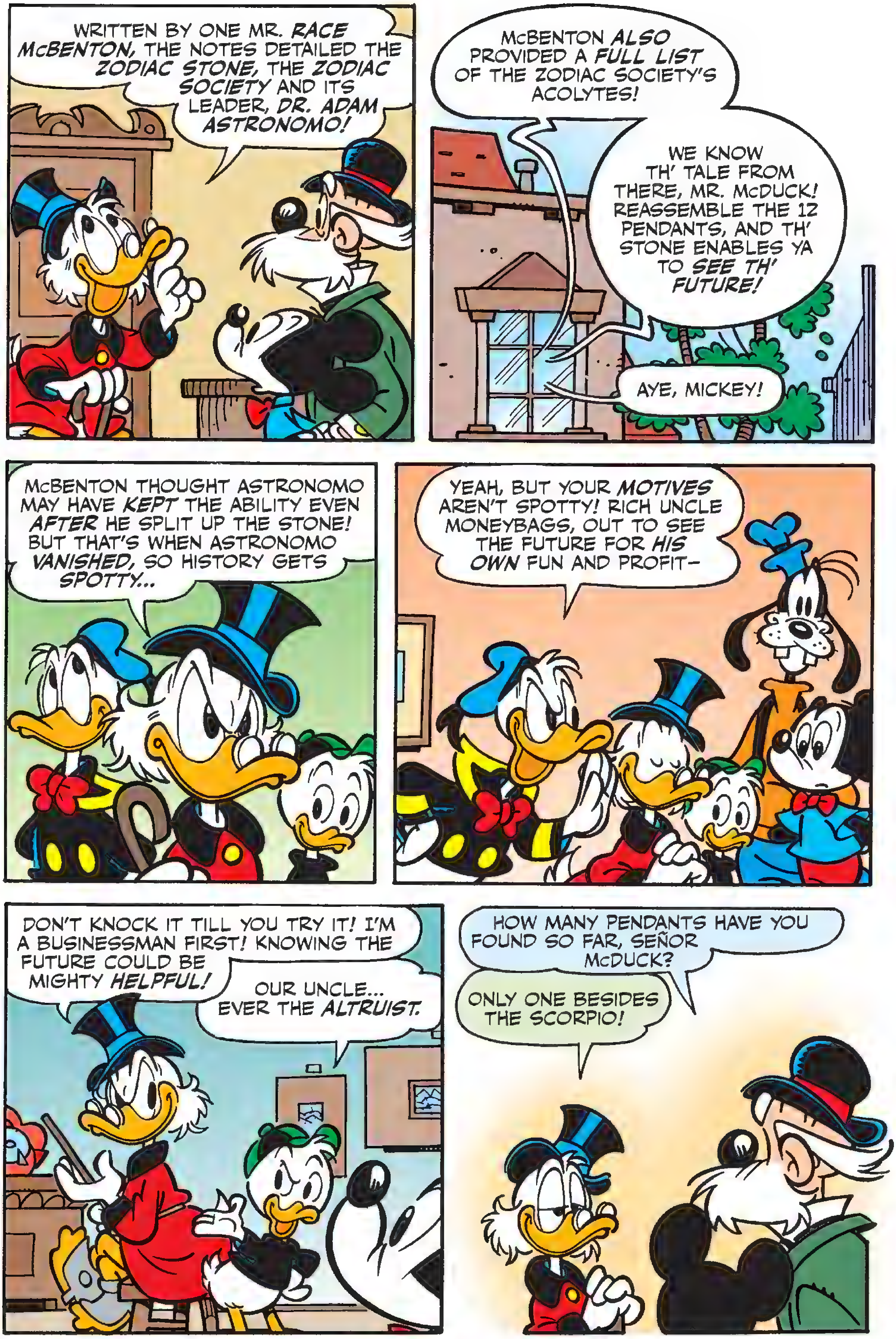

CRASH
SWEET FANNY ADAMS! ANUTHER INCH AN' I'D HAVE BEEN POUNDED LIKE A NAIL!
BROO-OOARR
TH' QUAKE'S OUTTA CONTROL! KEEP RUNNING, AN' DON'T SPARE THE FEET!
WAK! WATCH THE CREVASSE!
THERE, LADS! THE RIVER!
BUT OUR CANOES ARE FURTHER UPSTREAM!
ANY PORT IN A STORM! EVERYBODY... MAKE LIKE CORMORANTS AND DIVE!
SPLASH

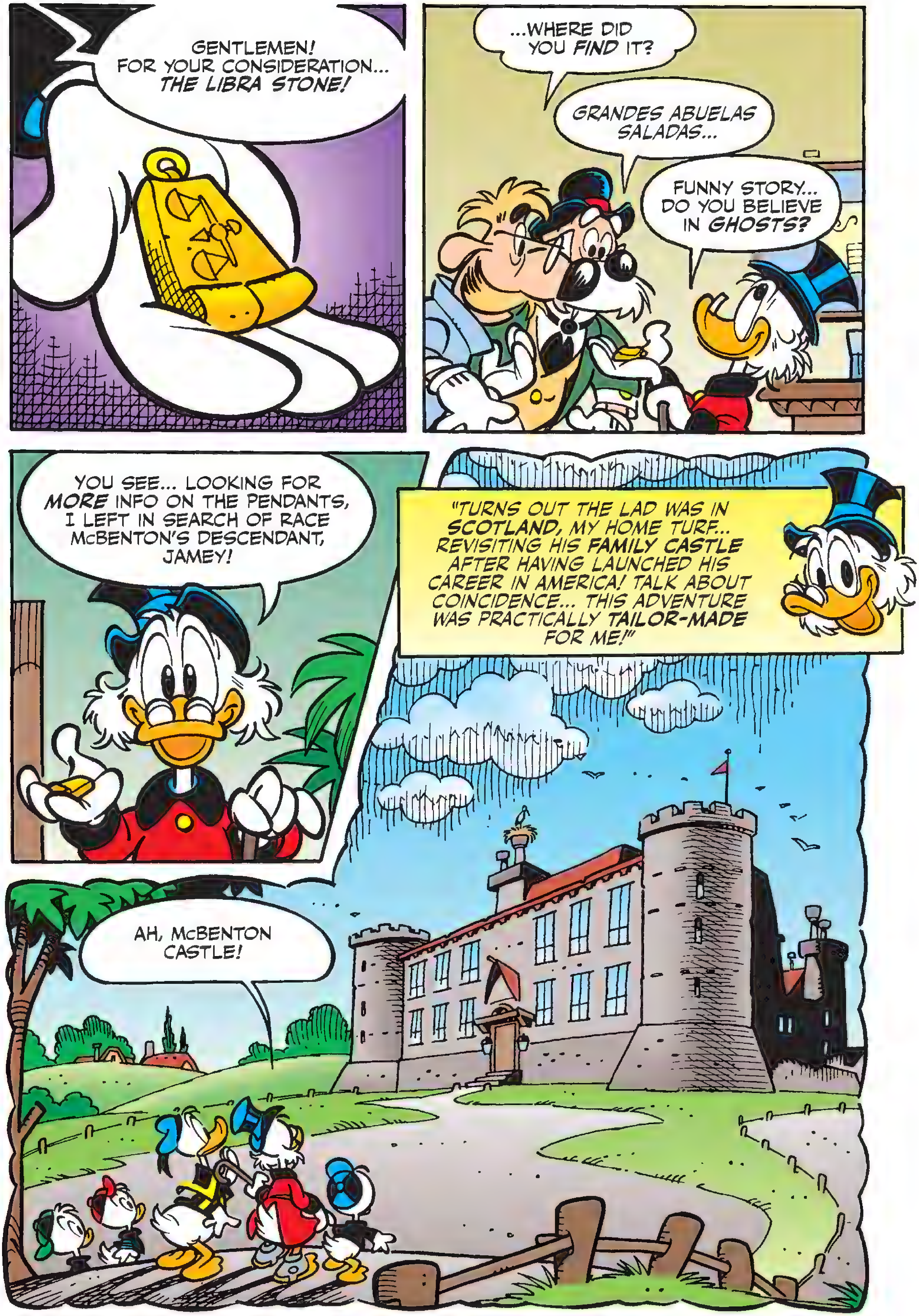

THE WATER OUGHTA BE SAFER THAN THAT ROCKSLIDE!
PLUNK
SPLASH
WAAAK! SAFER FROM THE QUAKES... *YES!* SAFER FROM CAIMANS AND GATORS... *NO!*
WATCH MY *PERSONAL SPACE,* YOU LUMPY HANDBAG—
?
WEDGE!
SCREECH! NEVER MIND! I'LL WATCH IT *MYSELF!*
CRACK
WHINE! THAT CANE WAS PRACTICALLY *NEW!*
YOU BOUGHT THE THING IN 1910! *KEEP SWIMMIN'!*

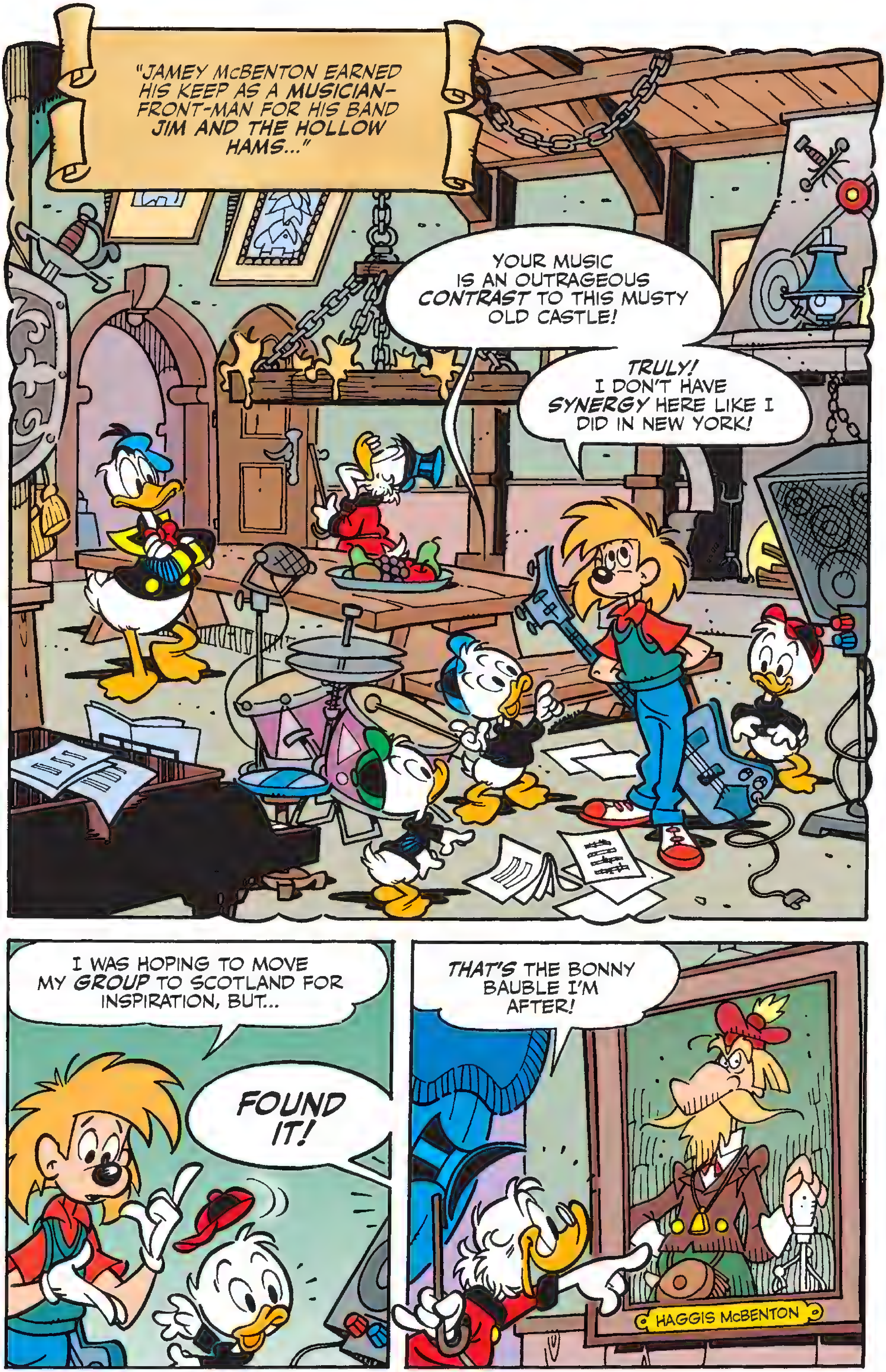

AHOY, FRIENDS! CLIMB ABOARD!
HOT DOG, THE COTTON COUSINS! WE'RE SAVED!
PLUNK
ROOMBLE
EAT OAR, THUNDER LIZARD!
WHACK
YEEOWCH!
SNAP
HURRY! GET IN!
BRUTHER, YUH AIN'T GOTTA TELL ME TWICE!
ZOM
WHEW! TALK ABOUT PERFECT TIMING! THANKS, CAL.
YOU'RE WELCOME, MR. MOUSE!

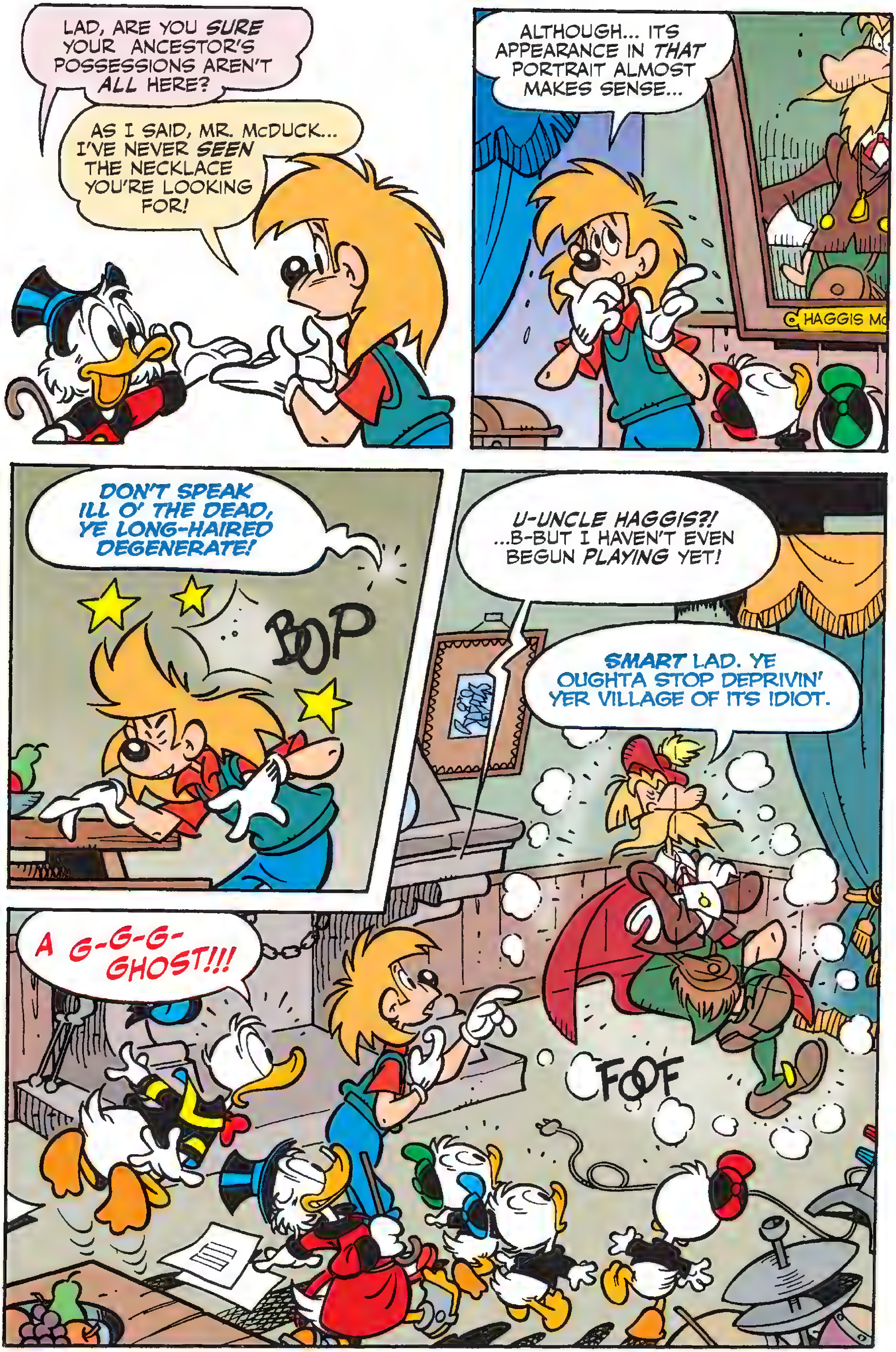

YOU'RE ALSO *INCREDIBLY* LUCKY. IF CAB HADN'T NEEDED MY HELP CATALOGING FLOWERS OFF THE RIVER, YOU SEVEN WOULD'VE BEEN GATOR CHOW!
HYUCK! AT LEAST OUR GOOD LUCK'S GOT AN *EXPLANATION*...
MIXED INTA YER *ORCHIDS* WUZ A *FOUR-LEAF CLOVER!*
SIGH GOOFY...
AND SO MICKEY'S AMAZON ADVENTURE COMES TO AN END! BUT...
I GUESS WE'RE NOT THE *ONLY* ONES LOOKIN' FOR THE STONE, PROF. ZAPOTEC...
MUSE
DRYUPP UNIVERSITY DIPLOMA
...'CAUSE *MR. McDUCK,* HERE, HAS ALREADY *GOT* A LIST OF TH' ZODIAC SOCIETY'S DESCENDANTS!
PLEASURE TO MEET YOU, SIRS!

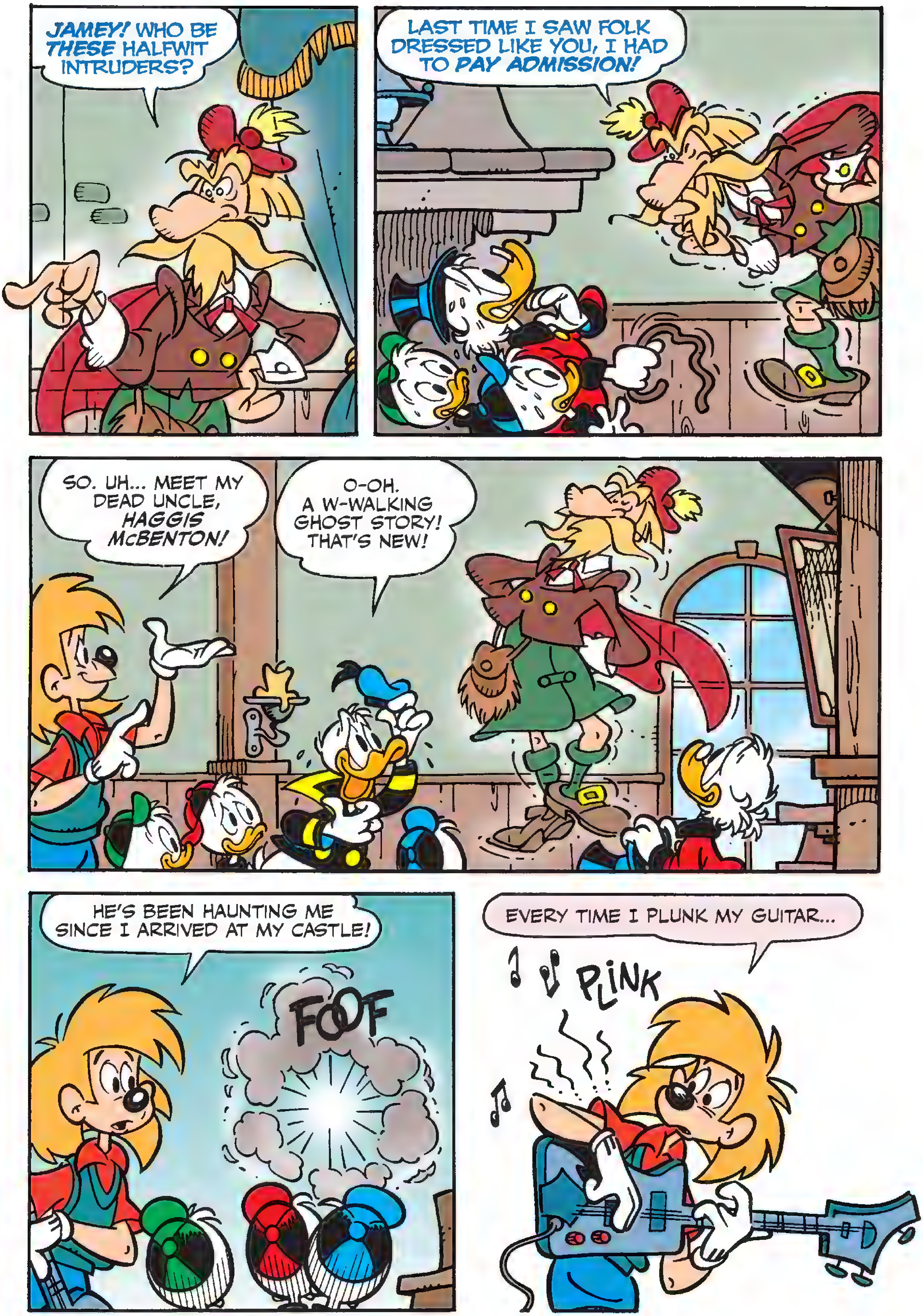

YOU SEE, I WAS ARRANGING MY PERSONAL LIBRARY SEVERAL MONTHS AGO, WHEN...
I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW I *HAD* HALF OF THESE DUSTY OLD TOMES!
OOPS!
WOBBLE
THUNK!
ANNOTATIONS ON ASTROLOGY
URGH! OF *COURSE* A BOOK ON *ASTROLOGY* HAS ME SEEING *STARS*...
AND HIDDEN *RESEARCH NOTES!* WHAT'S *THIS* ALL ABOUT?

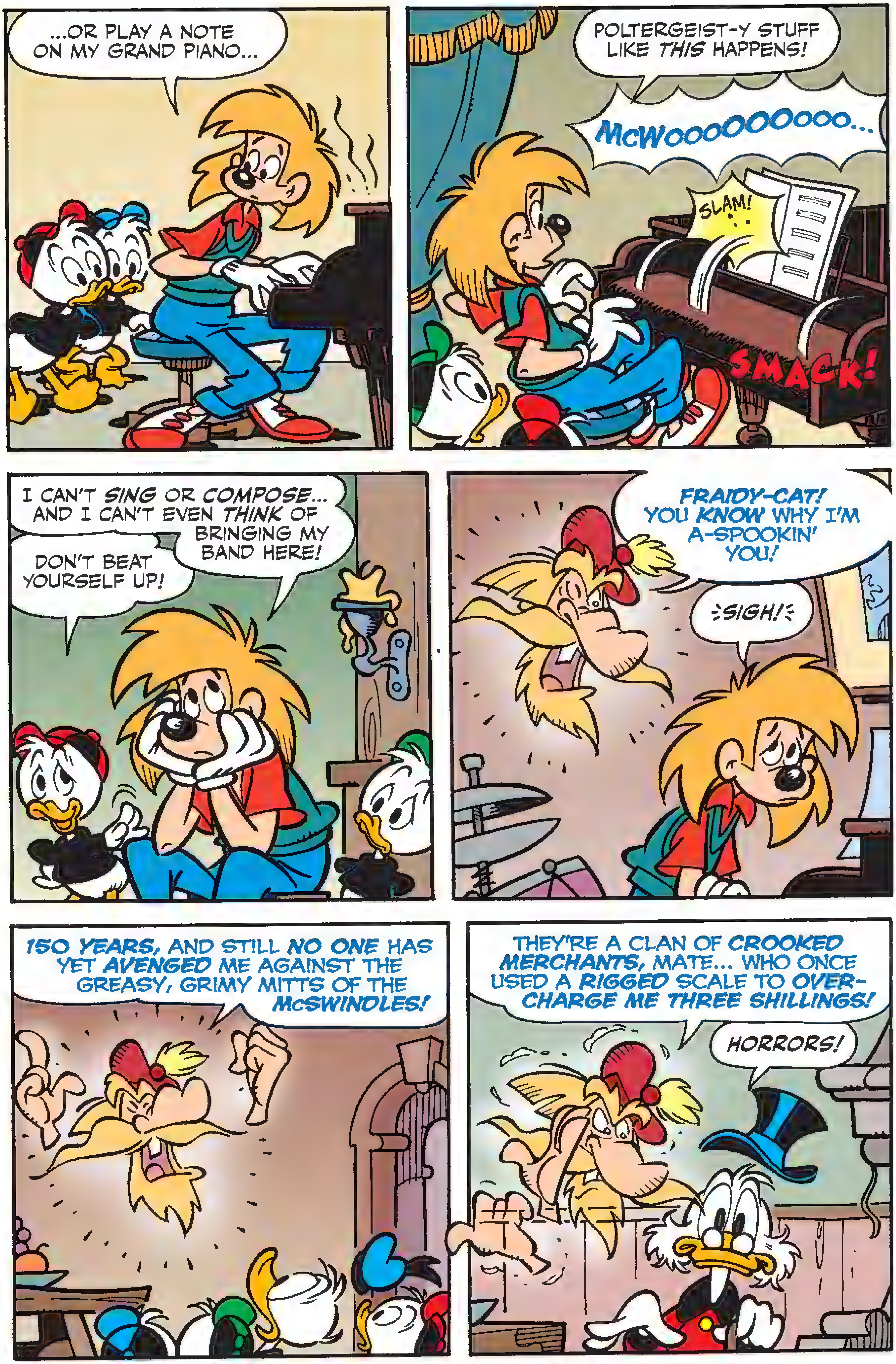

WRITTEN BY ONE MR. *RACE McBENTON,* THE NOTES DETAILED THE *ZODIAC STONE,* THE *ZODIAC SOCIETY* AND ITS LEADER, *DR. ADAM ASTRONOMO!*
McBENTON *ALSO* PROVIDED A *FULL LIST* OF THE ZODIAC SOCIETY'S ACOLYTES!
WE KNOW TH' TALE FROM THERE, MR. McDUCK! REASSEMBLE THE 12 PENDANTS, AND TH' STONE ENABLES YA TO *SEE TH' FUTURE!*
AYE, MICKEY!
McBENTON THOUGHT ASTRONOMO MAY HAVE *KEPT* THE ABILITY EVEN *AFTER* HE SPLIT UP THE STONE! BUT THAT'S WHEN ASTRONOMO *VANISHED,* SO HISTORY GETS *SPOTTY...*
YEAH, BUT YOUR *MOTIVES* AREN'T SPOTTY! RICH UNCLE MONEYBAGS, OUT TO SEE THE FUTURE FOR *HIS OWN* FUN AND PROFIT–
DON'T KNOCK IT TILL YOU TRY IT! I'M A BUSINESSMAN FIRST! KNOWING THE FUTURE COULD BE MIGHTY *HELPFUL!*
OUR UNCLE... EVER THE *ALTRUIST.*
HOW MANY PENDANTS HAVE YOU FOUND SO FAR, SEÑOR McDUCK?
ONLY ONE BESIDES THE SCORPIO!

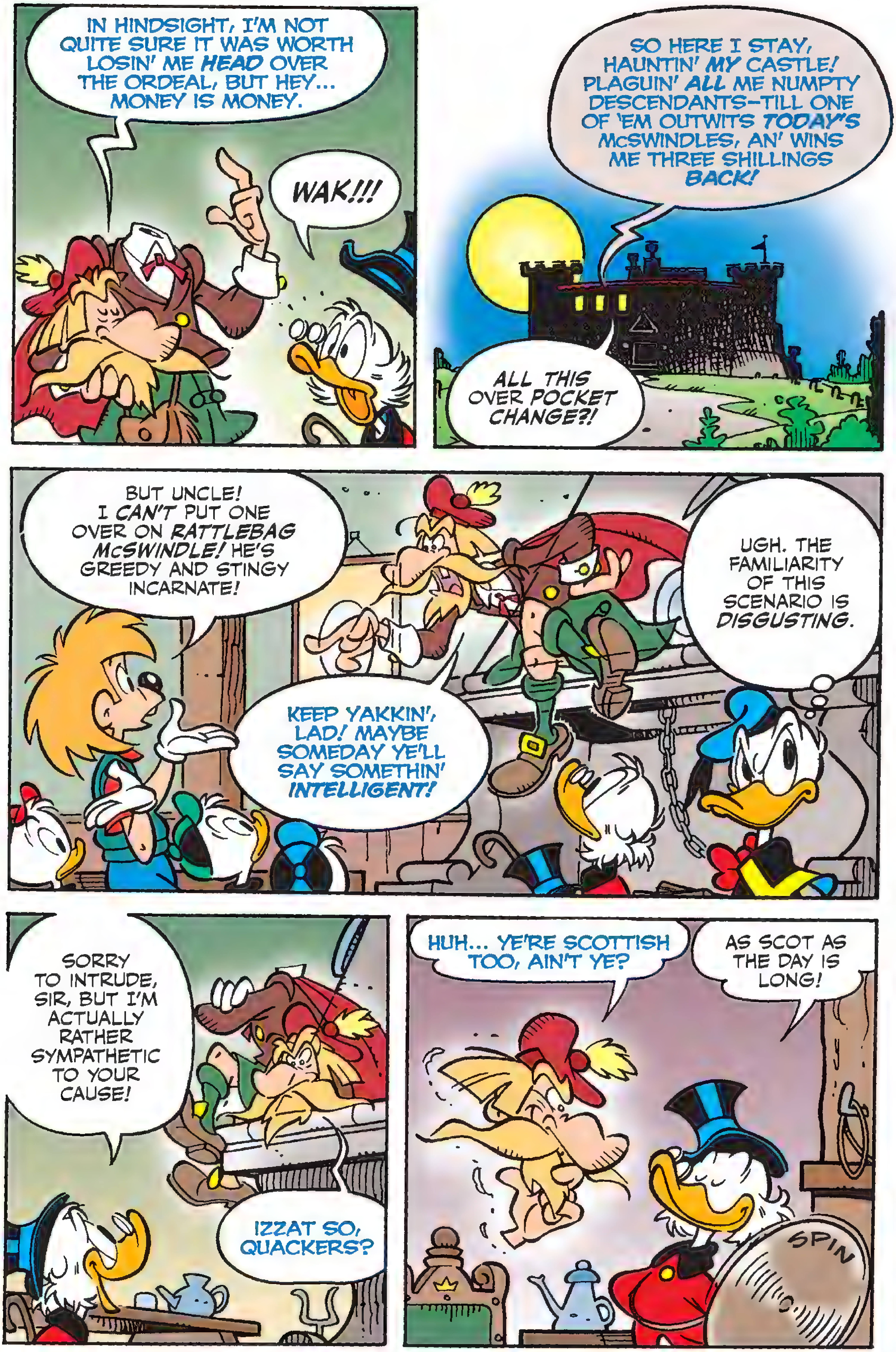

GENTLEMEN! FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION... *THE LIBRA STONE!*
...WHERE DID YOU *FIND* IT?
GRANDES ABUELAS SALADAS...
FUNNY STORY... DO YOU BELIEVE IN *GHOSTS?*
YOU SEE... LOOKING FOR *MORE* INFO ON THE PENDANTS, I LEFT IN SEARCH OF RACE McBENTON'S DESCENDANT, JAMEY!
*"TURNS OUT THE LAD WAS IN **SCOTLAND**, MY HOME TURF... REVISITING HIS **FAMILY CASTLE** AFTER HAVING LAUNCHED HIS CAREER IN AMERICA! TALK ABOUT COINCIDENCE... THIS ADVENTURE WAS PRACTICALLY **TAILOR-MADE** FOR ME!"*
AH, McBENTON CASTLE!

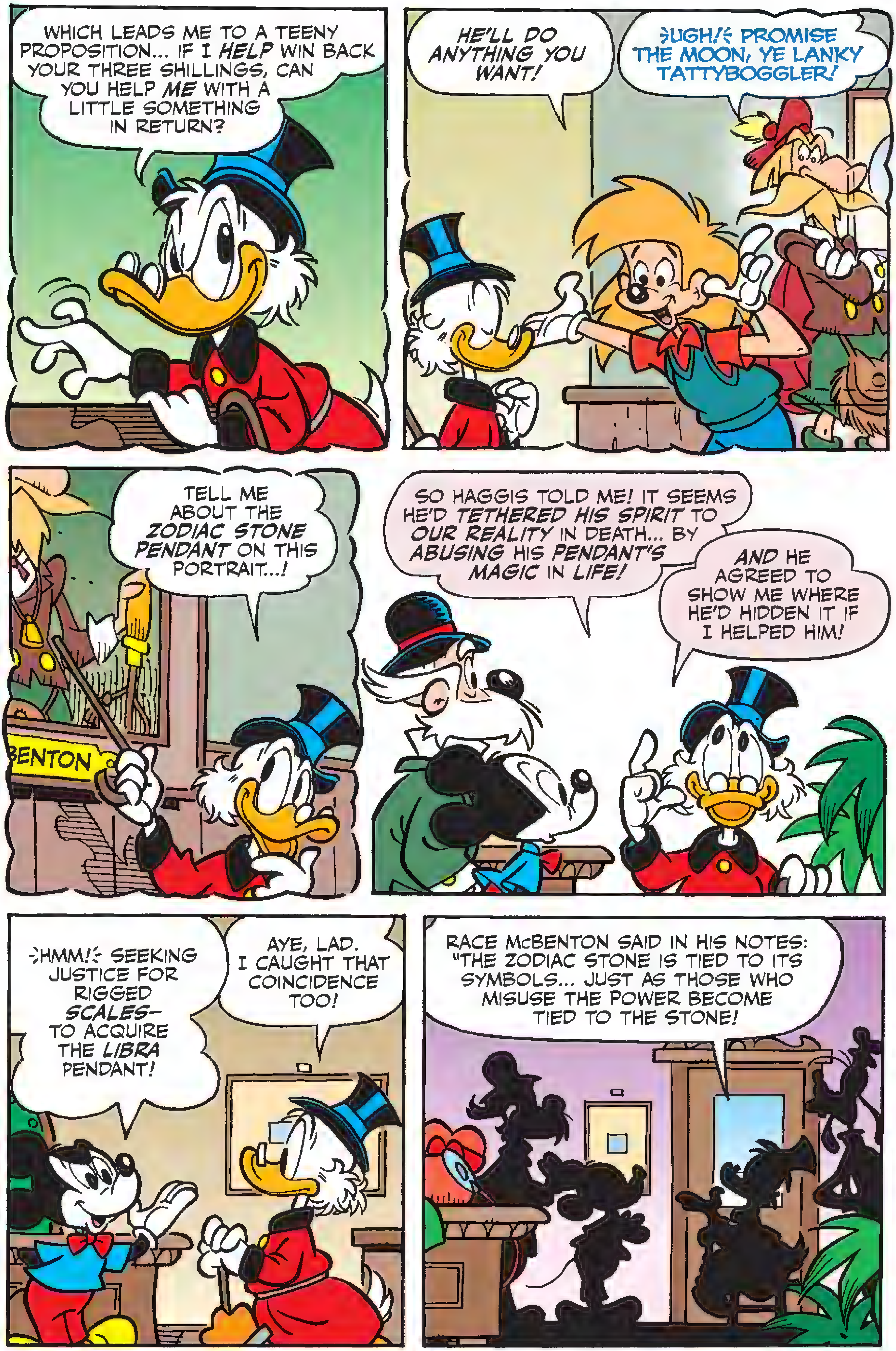

"JAMEY McBENTON EARNED HIS KEEP AS A MUSICIAN-FRONT-MAN FOR HIS BAND JIM AND THE HOLLOW HAMS..."
YOUR MUSIC IS AN OUTRAGEOUS CONTRAST TO THIS MUSTY OLD CASTLE!
TRULY! I DON'T HAVE SYNERGY HERE LIKE I DID IN NEW YORK!
I WAS HOPING TO MOVE MY GROUP TO SCOTLAND FOR INSPIRATION, BUT...
FOUND IT!
THAT'S THE BONNY BAUBLE I'M AFTER!
HAGGIS McBENTON

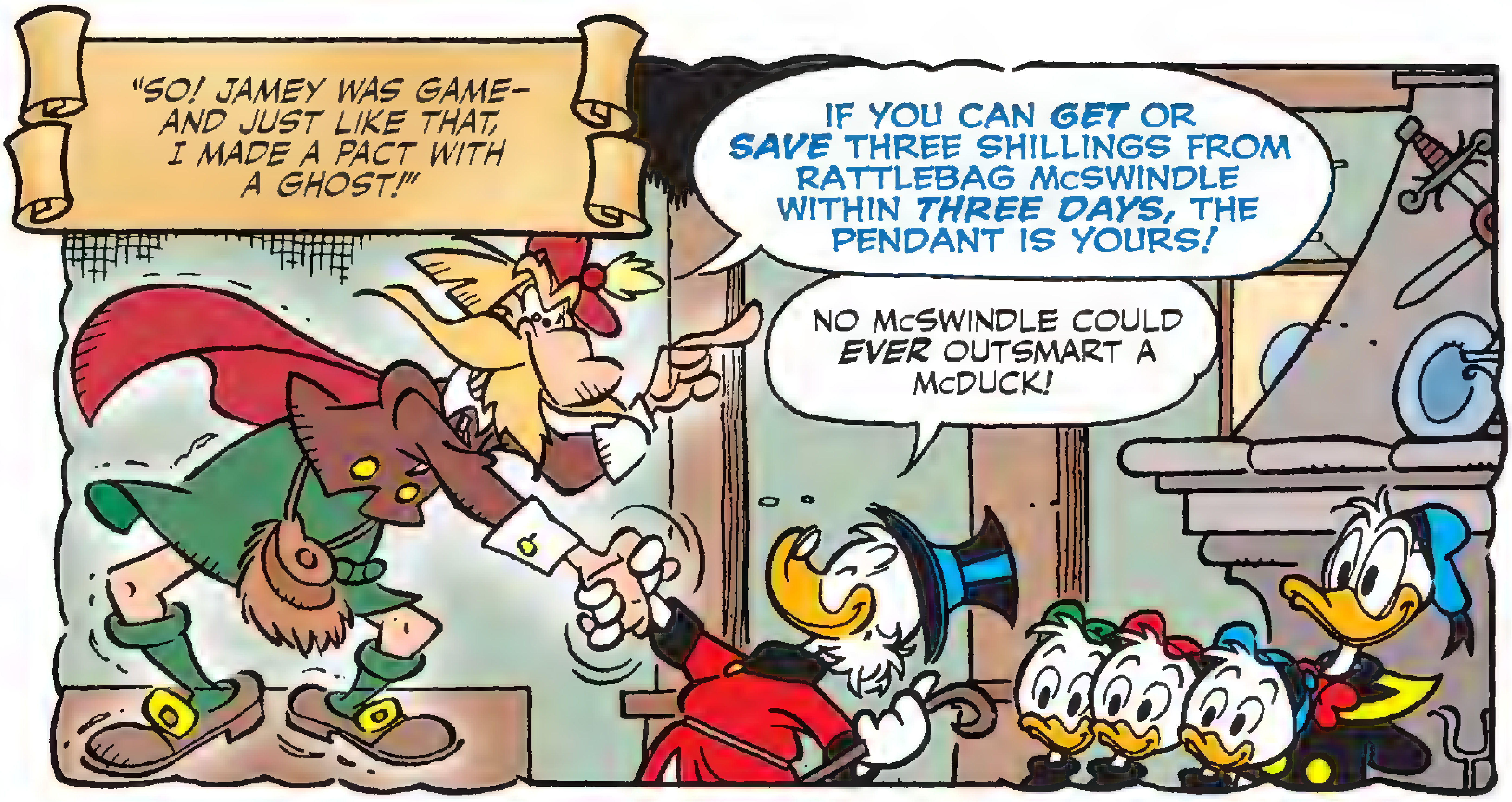

LAD, ARE YOU *SURE* YOUR ANCESTOR'S POSSESSIONS AREN'T *ALL* HERE?
AS I SAID, MR. McDUCK... I'VE NEVER *SEEN* THE NECKLACE YOU'RE LOOKING FOR!
ALTHOUGH... ITS APPEARANCE IN *THAT* PORTRAIT ALMOST MAKES SENSE...
HAGGIS Mc
DON'T SPEAK ILL O' THE DEAD, YE LONG-HAIRED DEGENERATE!
BOP
U-UNCLE HAGGIS?! ...B-BUT I HAVEN'T EVEN BEGUN *PLAYING* YET!
SMART LAD. YE OUGHTA STOP DEPRIVIN' YER VILLAGE OF ITS IDIOT.
FOOF
A G-G-G-GHOST!!!

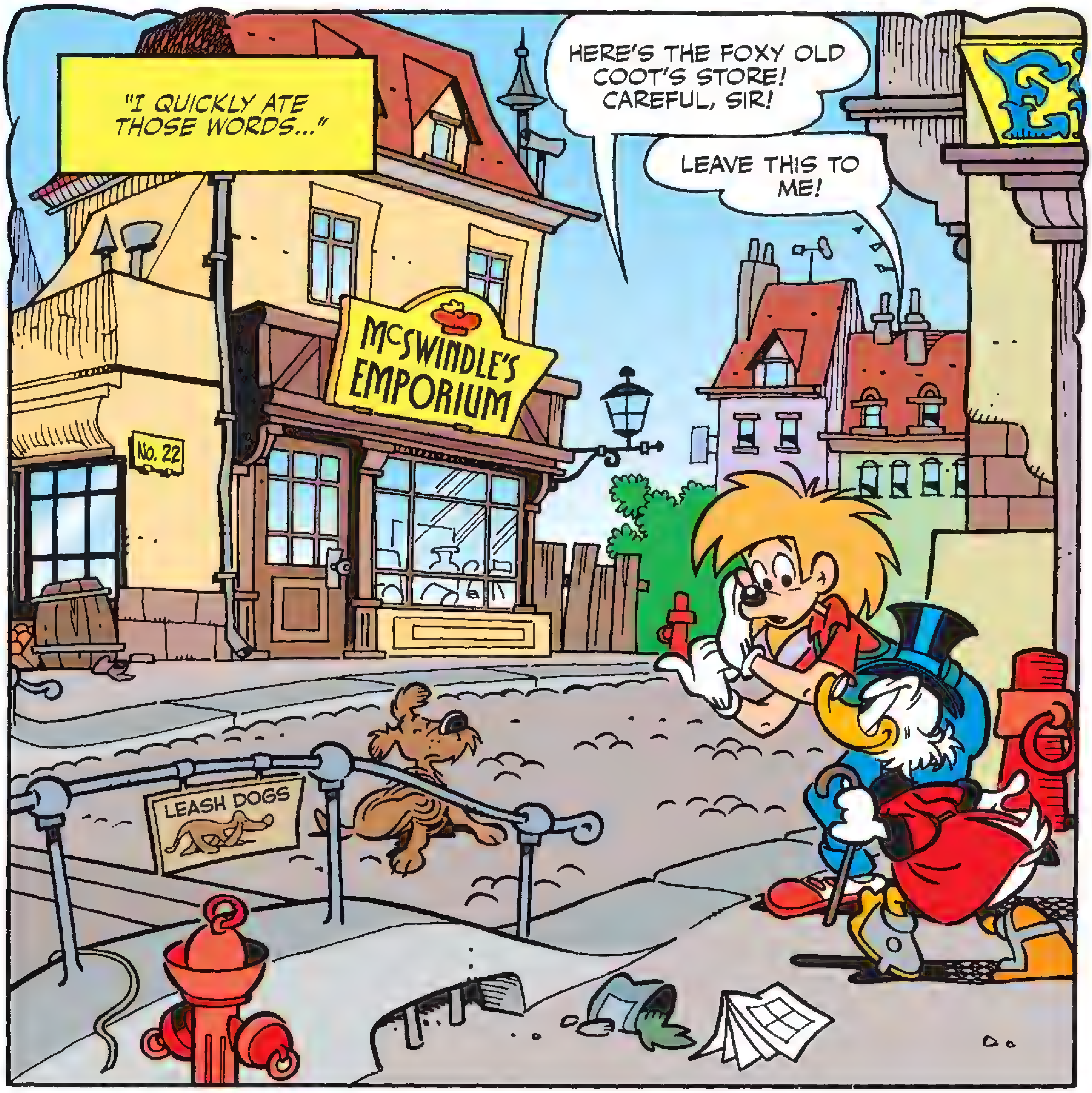

JAMEY! WHO BE THESE HALFWIT INTRUDERS?
LAST TIME I SAW FOLK DRESSED LIKE YOU, I HAD TO PAY ADMISSION!
SO. UH... MEET MY DEAD UNCLE, HAGGIS McBENTON!
O-OH. A W-WALKING GHOST STORY! THAT'S NEW!
HE'S BEEN HAUNTING ME SINCE I ARRIVED AT MY CASTLE!
FOOF
EVERY TIME I PLUNK MY GUITAR...
PLINK

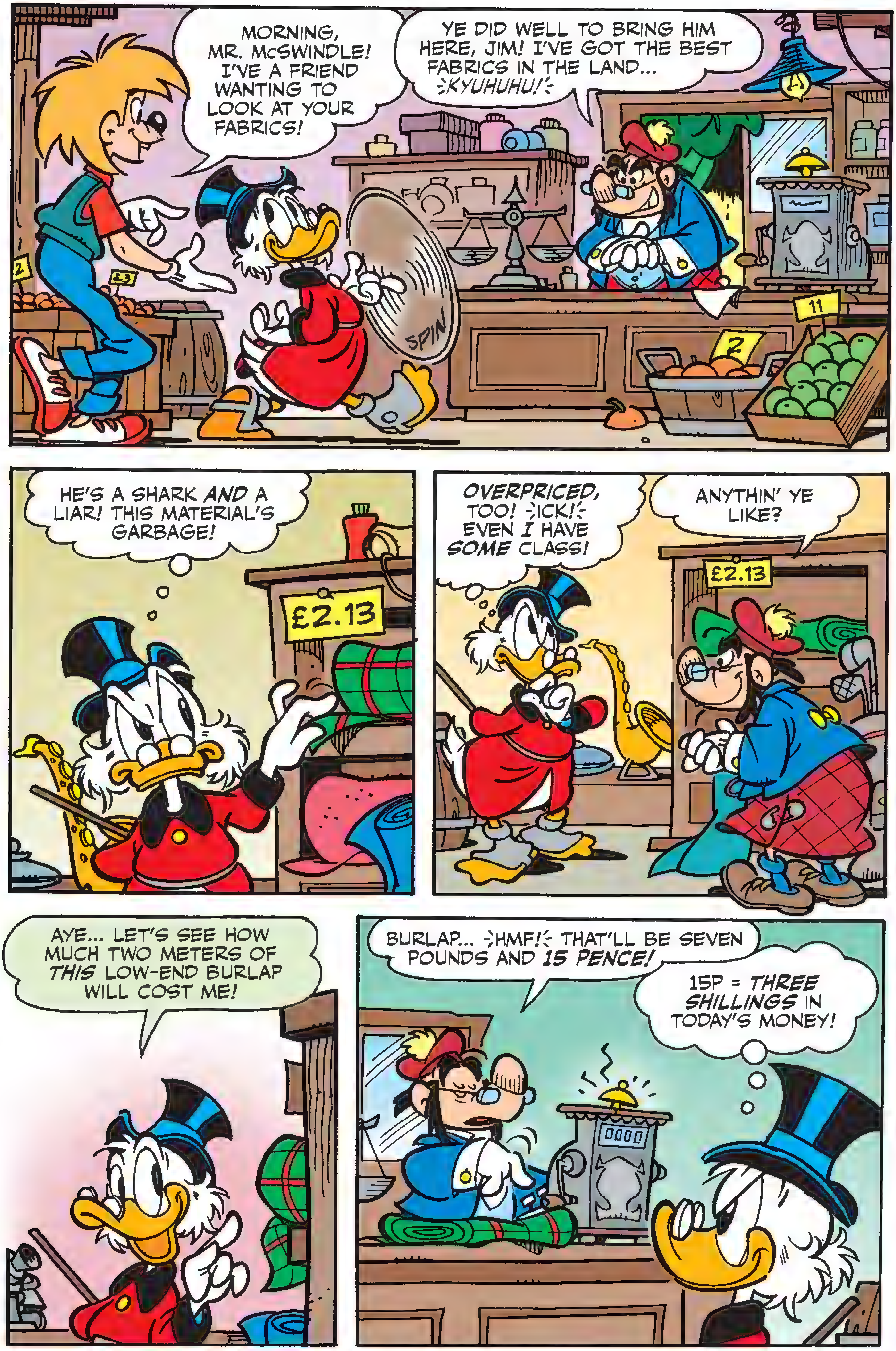

...OR PLAY A NOTE ON MY GRAND PIANO...
POLTERGEIST-Y STUFF LIKE *THIS* HAPPENS!
McWOOOOOOOOOOO...
SLAM!
SMACK!
I CAN'T *SING* OR *COMPOSE*... AND I CAN'T EVEN *THINK* OF BRINGING MY BAND HERE!
DON'T BEAT YOURSELF UP!
FRAIDY-CAT! YOU *KNOW* WHY I'M A-SPOOKIN' YOU!
SIGH!
150 YEARS, AND STILL *NO ONE* HAS YET *AVENGED* ME AGAINST THE GREASY, GRIMY MITTS OF THE *McSWINDLES!*
THEY'RE A CLAN OF *CROOKED MERCHANTS,* MATE... WHO ONCE USED A *RIGGED* SCALE TO *OVERCHARGE ME THREE SHILLINGS!*
HORRORS!

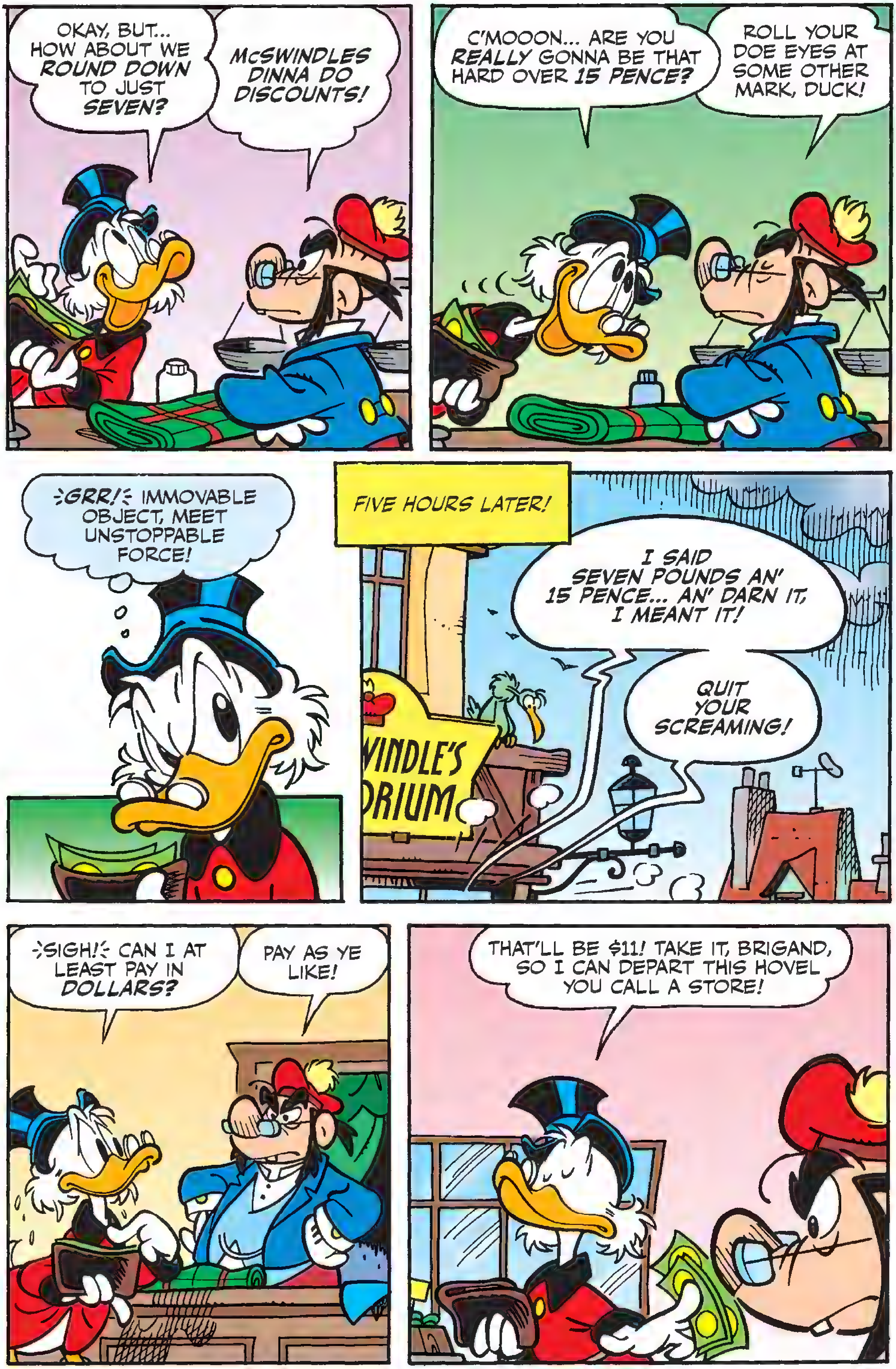

IN HINDSIGHT, I'M NOT QUITE SURE IT WAS WORTH LOSIN' ME *HEAD* OVER THE ORDEAL, BUT HEY... MONEY IS MONEY.
WAK!!!
SO HERE I STAY, HAUNTIN' *MY* CASTLE! PLAGUIN' *ALL* ME NUMPTY DESCENDANTS—TILL ONE OF 'EM OUTWITS *TODAY'S* McSWINDLES, AN' WINS ME THREE SHILLINGS *BACK!*
ALL THIS OVER POCKET CHANGE?!
BUT UNCLE! I *CAN'T* PUT ONE OVER ON *RATTLEBAG McSWINDLE!* HE'S GREEDY AND STINGY INCARNATE!
KEEP YAKKIN', LAD! MAYBE SOMEDAY YE'LL SAY SOMETHIN' *INTELLIGENT!*
UGH. THE FAMILIARITY OF THIS SCENARIO IS *DISGUSTING.*
SORRY TO INTRUDE, SIR, BUT I'M ACTUALLY RATHER SYMPATHETIC TO YOUR CAUSE!
IZZAT SO, QUACKERS?
HUH... YE'RE SCOTTISH TOO, AIN'T YE?
AS SCOT AS THE DAY IS LONG!
SPIN

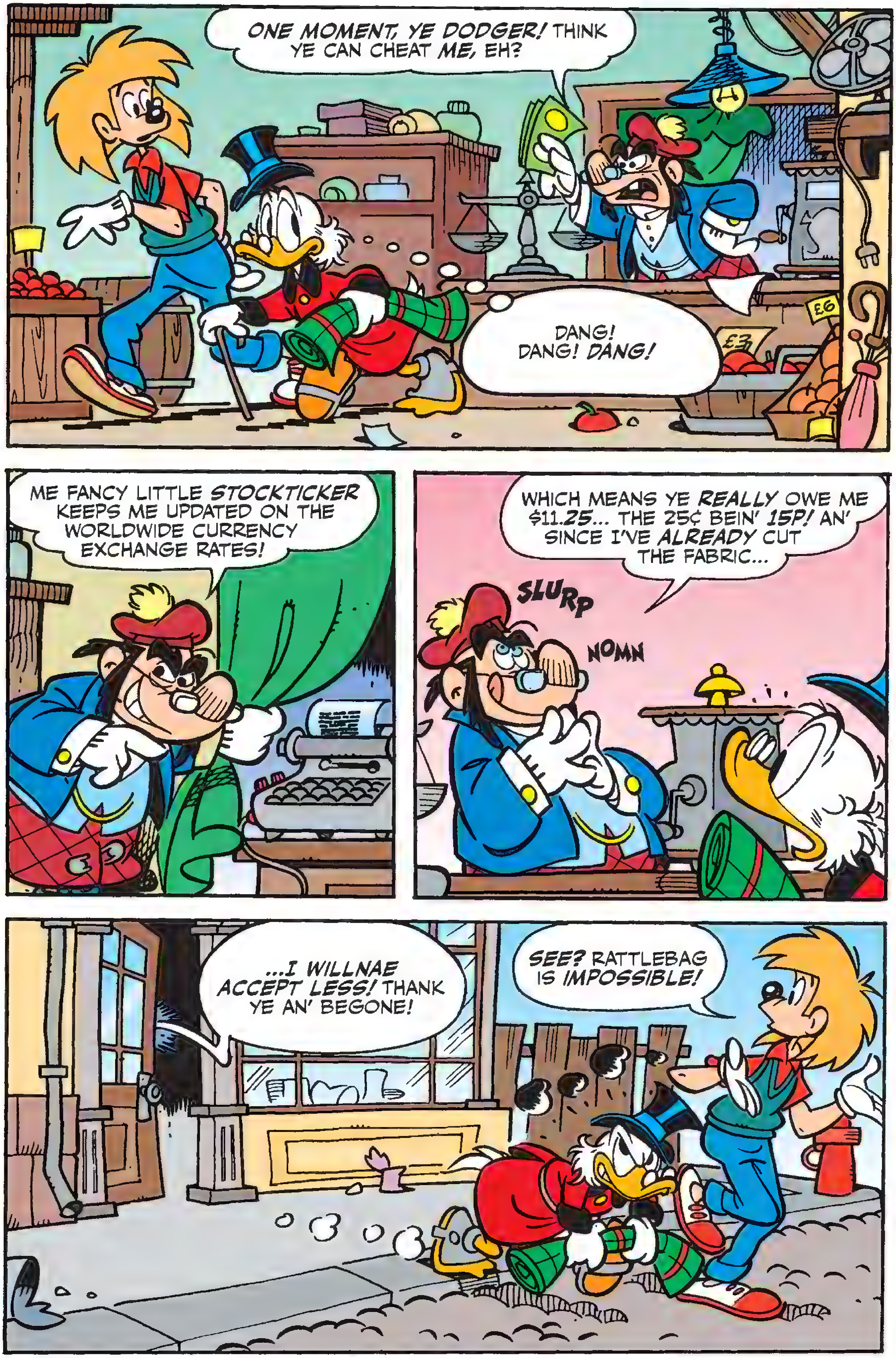

WHICH LEADS ME TO A TEENY PROPOSITION... IF I *HELP* WIN BACK YOUR THREE SHILLINGS, CAN YOU HELP *ME* WITH A LITTLE SOMETHING IN RETURN?
HE'LL DO ANYTHING YOU WANT!
-UGH!- PROMISE THE MOON, YE LANKY TATTYBOGGLER!
TELL ME ABOUT THE *ZODIAC STONE PENDANT* ON THIS PORTRAIT...!
BENTON
SO HAGGIS TOLD ME! IT SEEMS HE'D *TETHERED HIS SPIRIT* TO *OUR REALITY* IN DEATH... BY *ABUSING* HIS *PENDANT'S MAGIC* IN *LIFE!*
AND HE AGREED TO SHOW ME WHERE HE'D HIDDEN IT IF I HELPED HIM!
-HMM!- SEEKING JUSTICE FOR RIGGED *SCALES*— TO ACQUIRE THE *LIBRA* PENDANT!
AYE, LAD. I CAUGHT THAT COINCIDENCE TOO!
RACE McBENTON SAID IN HIS NOTES: "THE ZODIAC STONE IS TIED TO ITS SYMBOLS... JUST AS THOSE WHO MISUSE THE POWER BECOME TIED TO THE STONE!

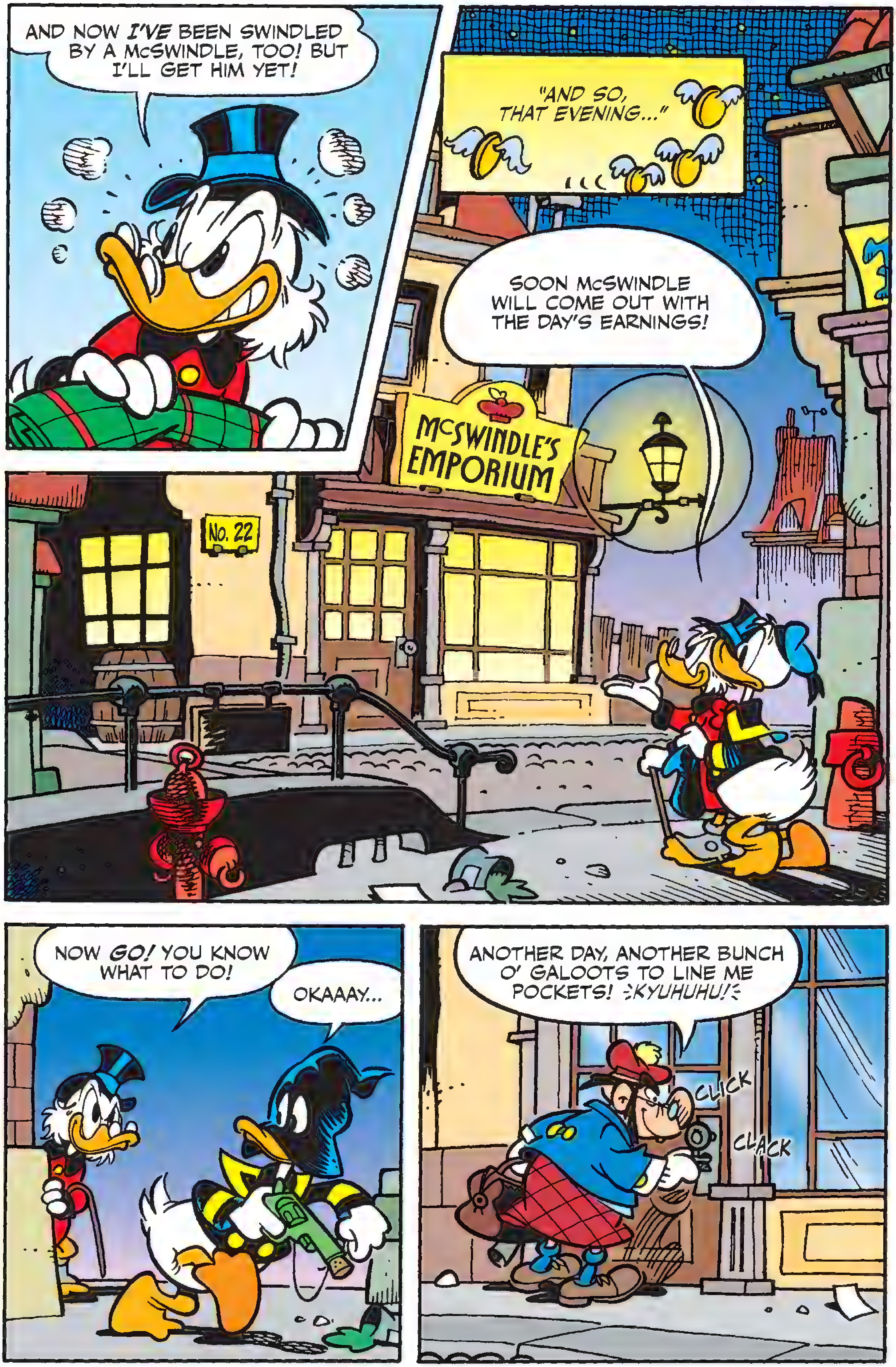

"SO! JAMEY WAS GAME— AND JUST LIKE THAT, I MADE A PACT WITH A GHOST!"
IF YOU CAN GET OR SAVE THREE SHILLINGS FROM RATTLEBAG McSWINDLE WITHIN THREE DAYS, THE PENDANT IS YOURS!
NO McSWINDLE COULD EVER OUTSMART A McDUCK!

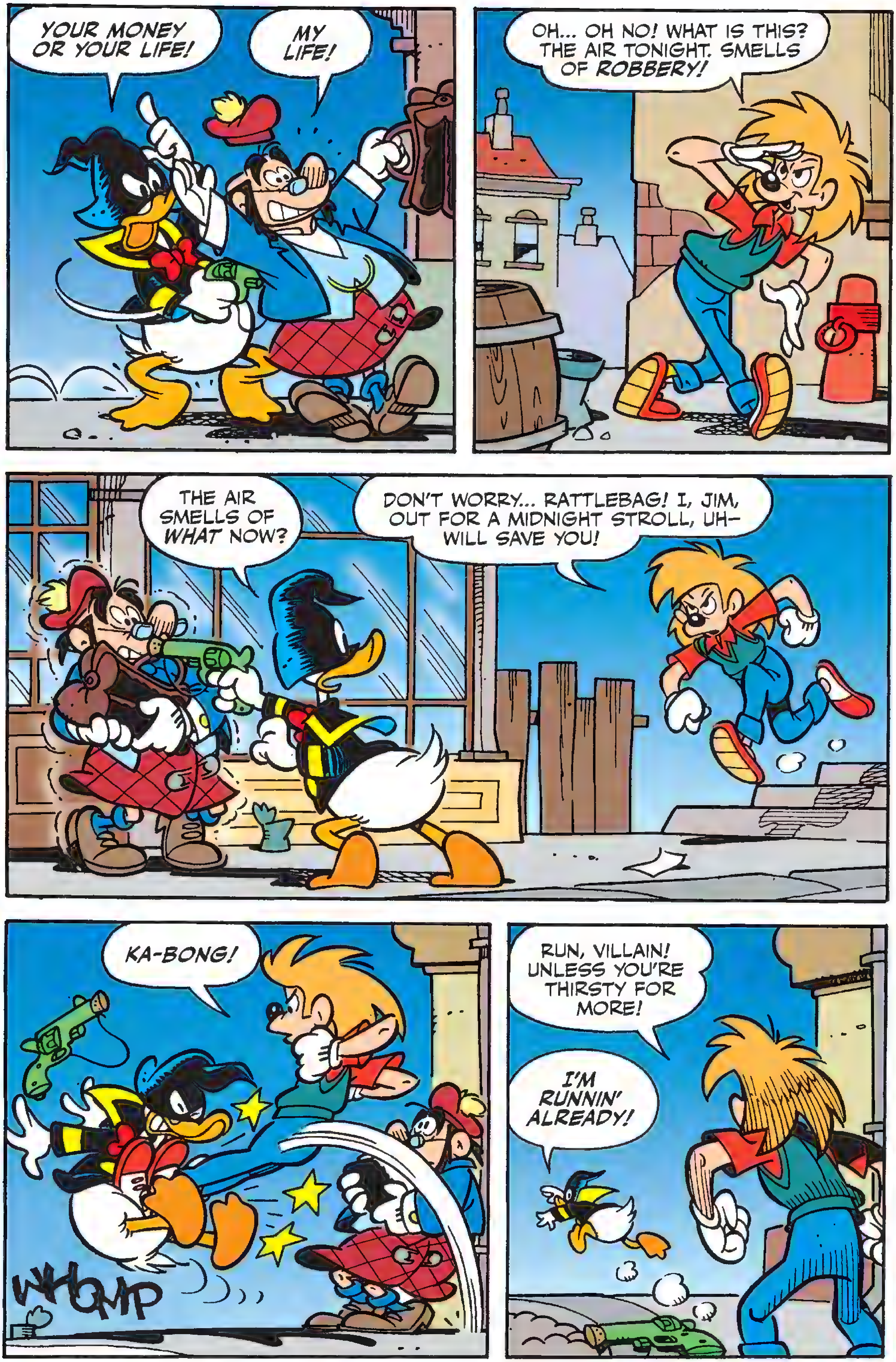

"I QUICKLY ATE THOSE WORDS..."
HERE'S THE FOXY OLD COOT'S STORE! CAREFUL, SIR!
LEAVE THIS TO ME!
McSWINDLE'S EMPORIUM
No. 22
LEASH DOGS

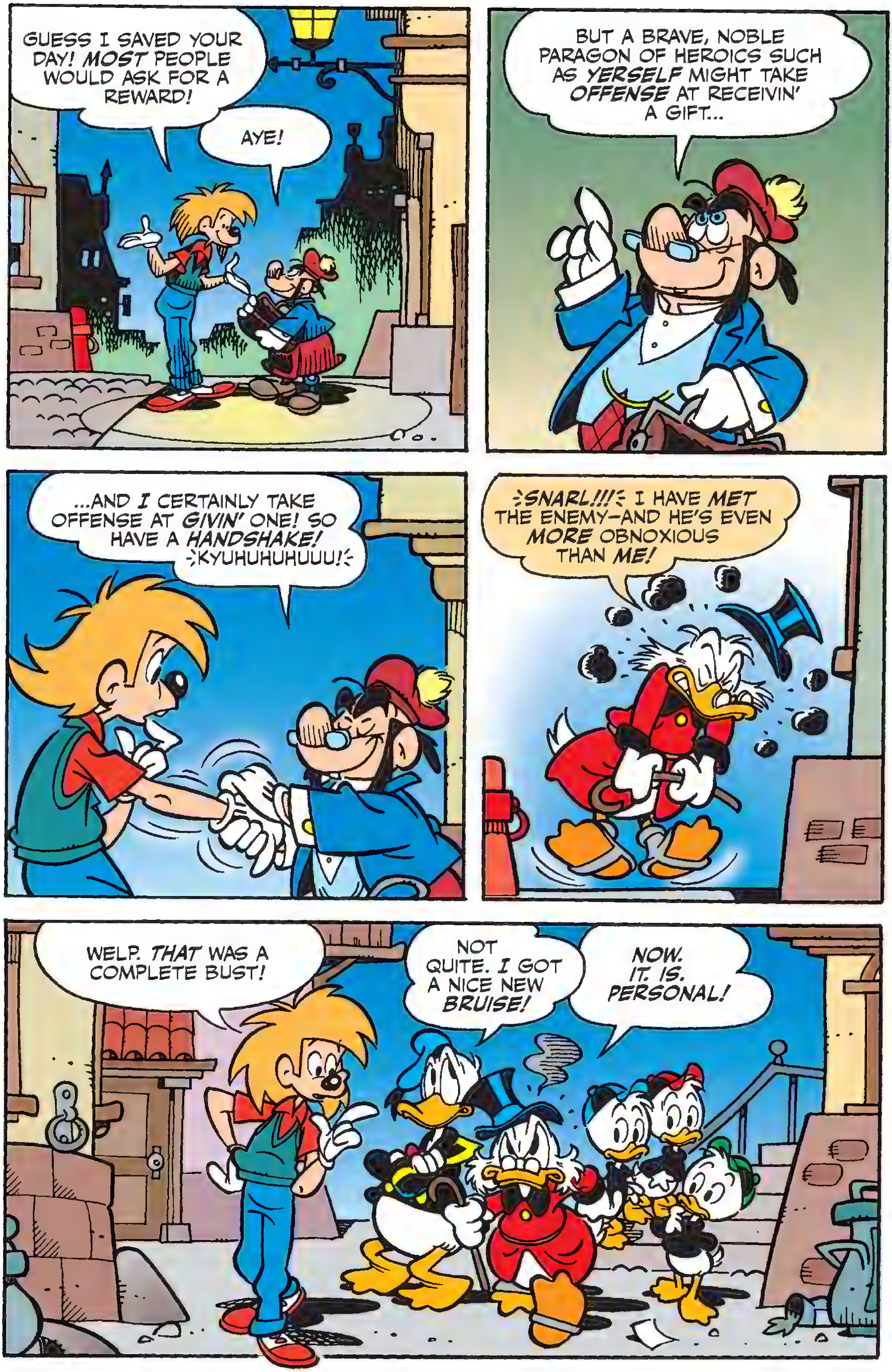

MORNING, MR. McSWINDLE! I'VE A FRIEND WANTING TO LOOK AT YOUR FABRICS!
YE DID WELL TO BRING HIM HERE, JIM! I'VE GOT THE BEST FABRICS IN THE LAND... ⁝KYUHUHU!⁝
2
£3
SPIN
11
2
HE'S A SHARK *AND* A LIAR! THIS MATERIAL'S GARBAGE!
£2.13
OVERPRICED, TOO! ⁝ICK!⁝ EVEN *I* HAVE *SOME* CLASS!
ANYTHIN' YE LIKE?
£2.13
AYE... LET'S SEE HOW MUCH TWO METERS OF *THIS* LOW-END BURLAP WILL COST ME!
BURLAP... ⁝HMF!⁝ THAT'LL BE SEVEN POUNDS AND *15 PENCE!*
15P = *THREE SHILLINGS* IN TODAY'S MONEY!
0000

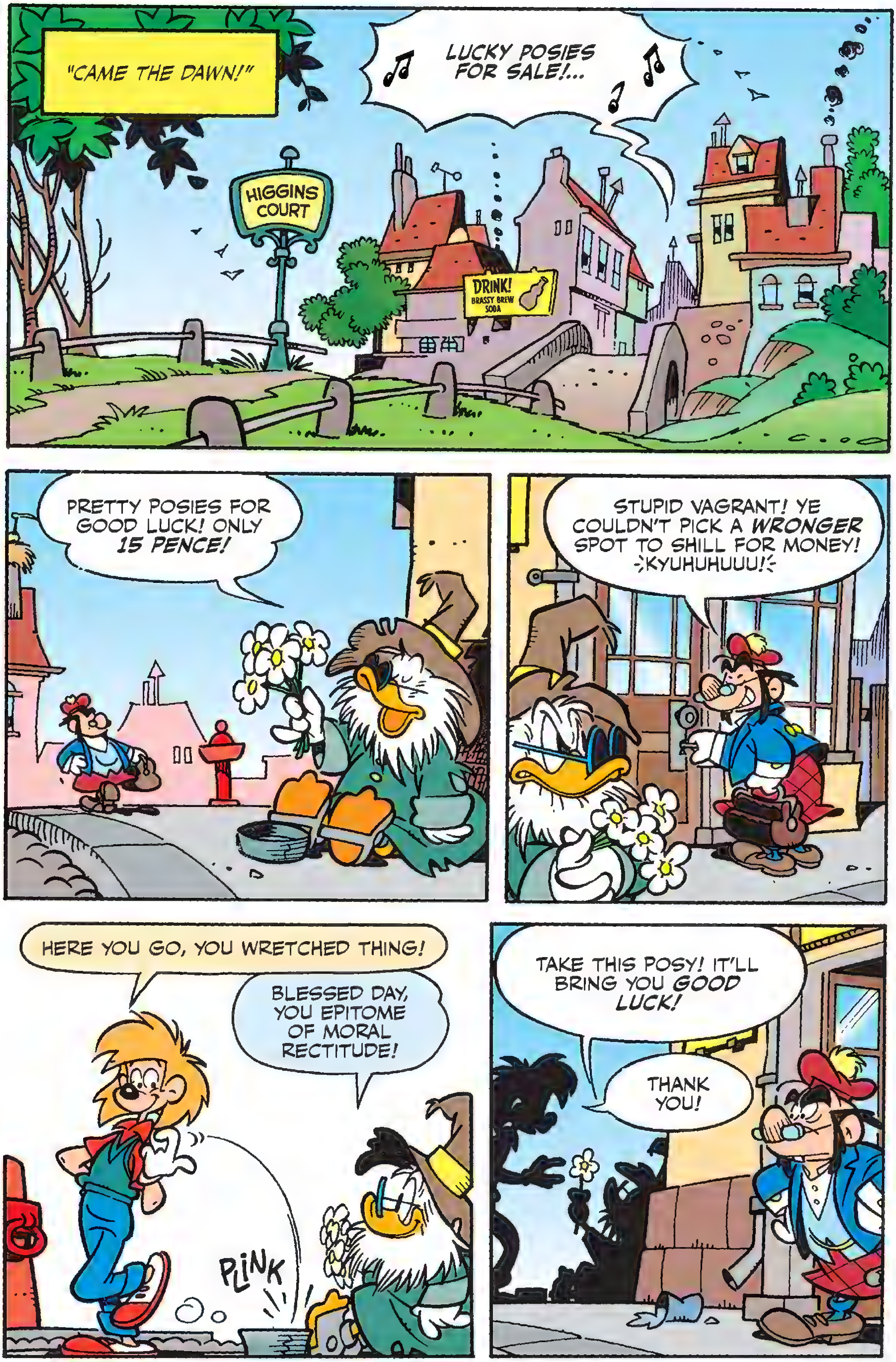

OKAY, BUT... HOW ABOUT WE *ROUND DOWN* TO JUST *SEVEN?*
McSWINDLES DINNA DO DISCOUNTS!
C'MOOON... ARE YOU *REALLY* GONNA BE THAT HARD OVER *15 PENCE?*
ROLL YOUR DOE EYES AT SOME OTHER MARK, DUCK!
GRR! IMMOVABLE OBJECT, MEET UNSTOPPABLE FORCE!
FIVE HOURS LATER!
I SAID SEVEN POUNDS AN' 15 PENCE... AN' DARN IT, I MEANT IT!
QUIT YOUR SCREAMING!
WINDLE'S
DRIUM
SIGH! CAN I AT LEAST PAY IN *DOLLARS?*
PAY AS YE LIKE!
THAT'LL BE $11! TAKE IT, BRIGAND, SO I CAN DEPART THIS HOVEL YOU CALL A STORE!

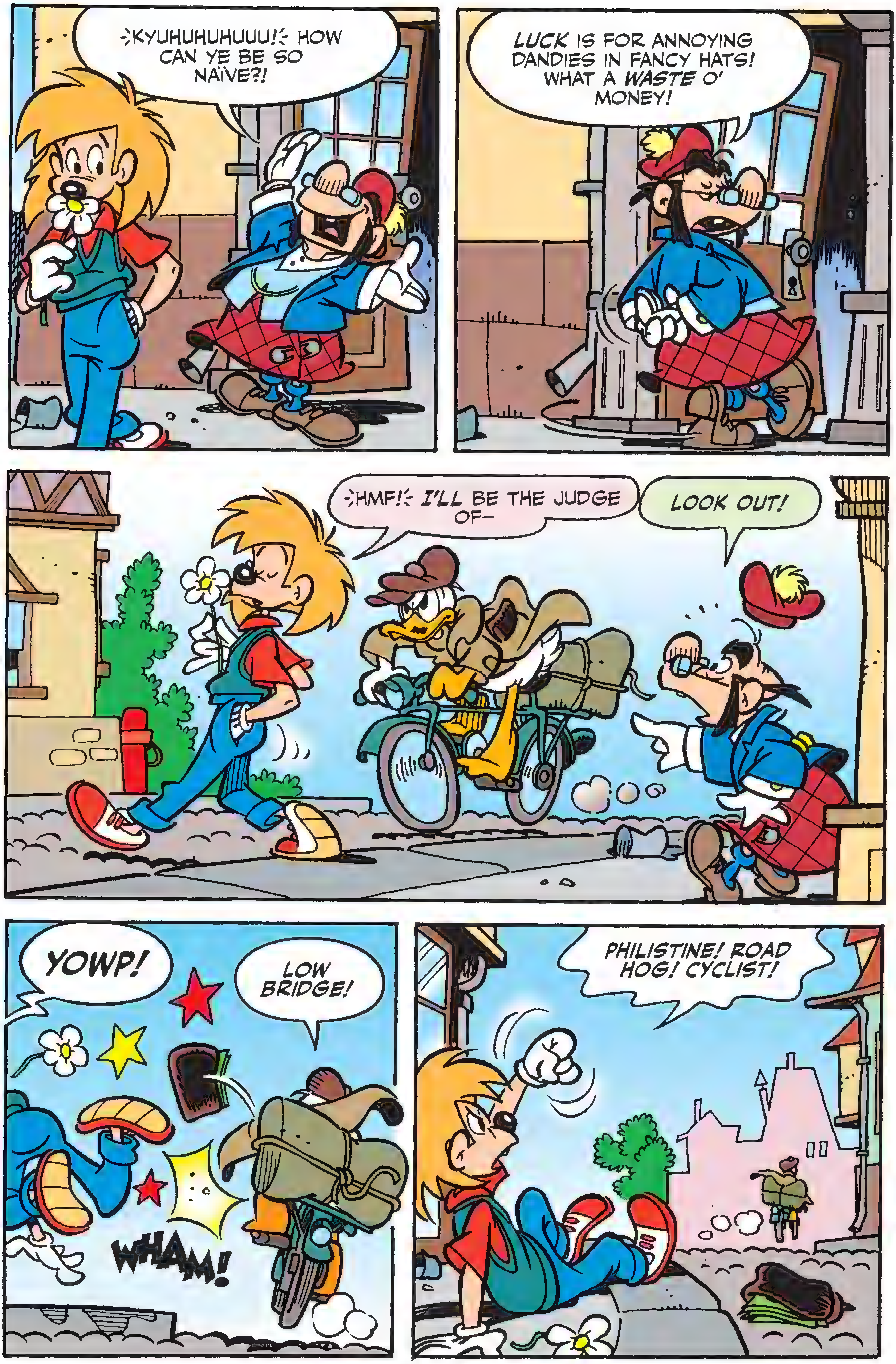

ONE MOMENT, YE DODGER! THINK YE CAN CHEAT ME, EH?
DANG! DANG! DANG!
£6
£3
ME FANCY LITTLE STOCKTICKER KEEPS ME UPDATED ON THE WORLDWIDE CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATES!
WHICH MEANS YE REALLY OWE ME $11.25... THE 25¢ BEIN' 15P! AN' SINCE I'VE ALREADY CUT THE FABRIC...
SLURP
NOMN
...I WILLNAE ACCEPT LESS! THANK YE AN' BEGONE!
SEE? RATTLEBAG IS IMPOSSIBLE!

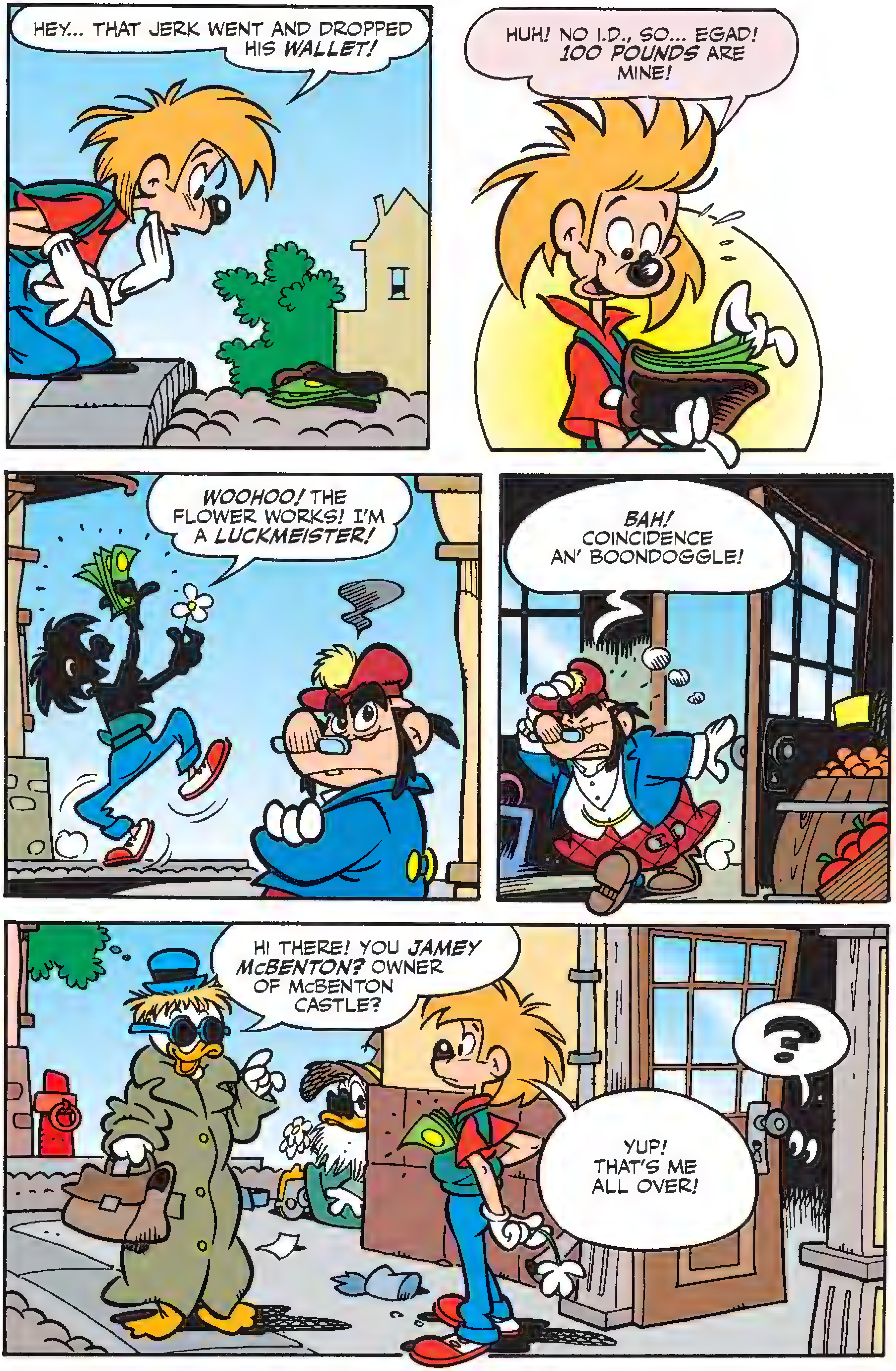

AND NOW *I'VE* BEEN SWINDLED BY A McSWINDLE, TOO! BUT I'LL GET HIM YET!
"AND SO, THAT EVENING..."
SOON McSWINDLE WILL COME OUT WITH THE DAY'S EARNINGS!
McSWINDLE'S EMPORIUM
No. 22
NOW *GO!* YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO!
OKAAAY...
ANOTHER DAY, ANOTHER BUNCH O' GALOOTS TO LINE ME POCKETS! *KYUHUHU!*
CLICK
CLACK

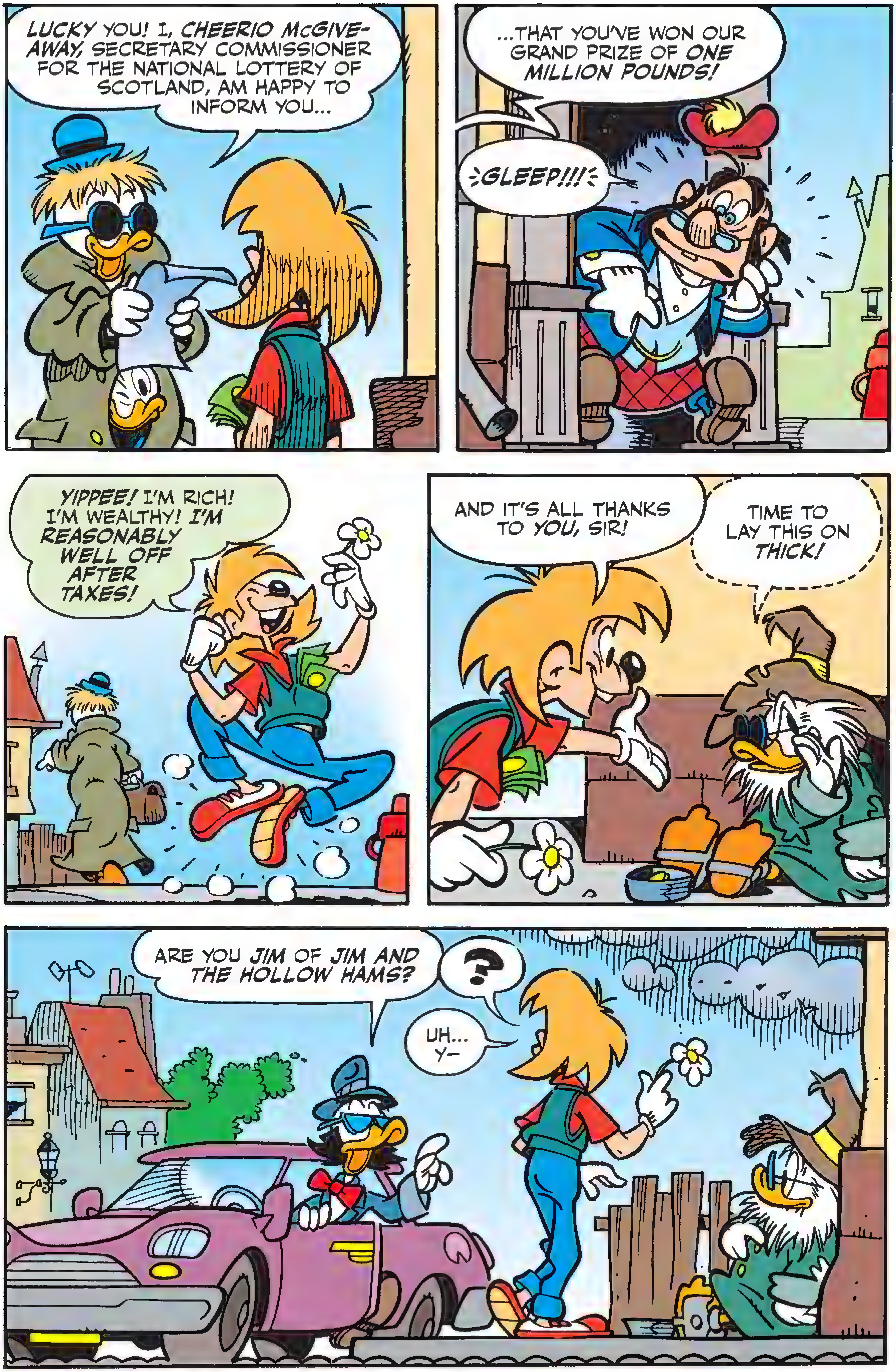

YOUR MONEY OR YOUR LIFE!
MY LIFE!
OH... OH NO! WHAT IS THIS? THE AIR TONIGHT. SMELLS OF *ROBBERY!*
THE AIR SMELLS OF *WHAT* NOW?
DON'T WORRY... RATTLEBAG! I, JIM, OUT FOR A MIDNIGHT STROLL, UH— WILL SAVE YOU!
KA-BONG!
WHOMP
RUN, VILLAIN! UNLESS YOU'RE THIRSTY FOR MORE!
I'M RUNNIN' ALREADY!

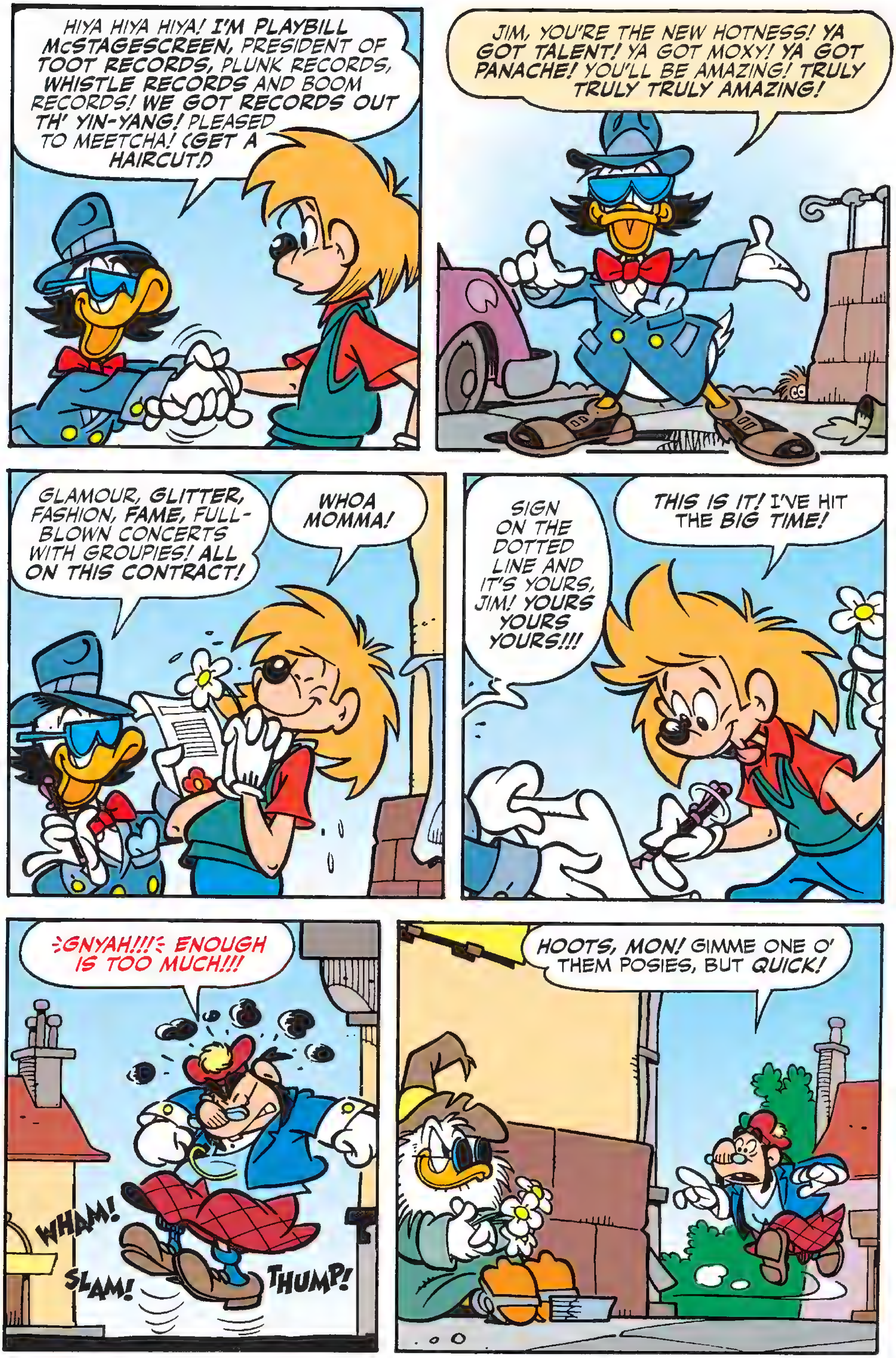

GUESS I SAVED YOUR DAY! *MOST* PEOPLE WOULD ASK FOR A REWARD!
AYE!
BUT A BRAVE, NOBLE PARAGON OF HEROICS SUCH AS *YERSELF* MIGHT TAKE *OFFENSE* AT RECEIVIN' A GIFT...
...AND *I* CERTAINLY TAKE OFFENSE AT *GIVIN'* ONE! SO HAVE A *HANDSHAKE!* KYUHUHUHUUU!
SNARL!!! I HAVE *MET* THE ENEMY—AND HE'S EVEN *MORE* OBNOXIOUS THAN *ME!*
WELP. *THAT* WAS A COMPLETE BUST!
NOT QUITE. *I* GOT A NICE NEW *BRUISE!*
NOW. IT. IS. PERSONAL!

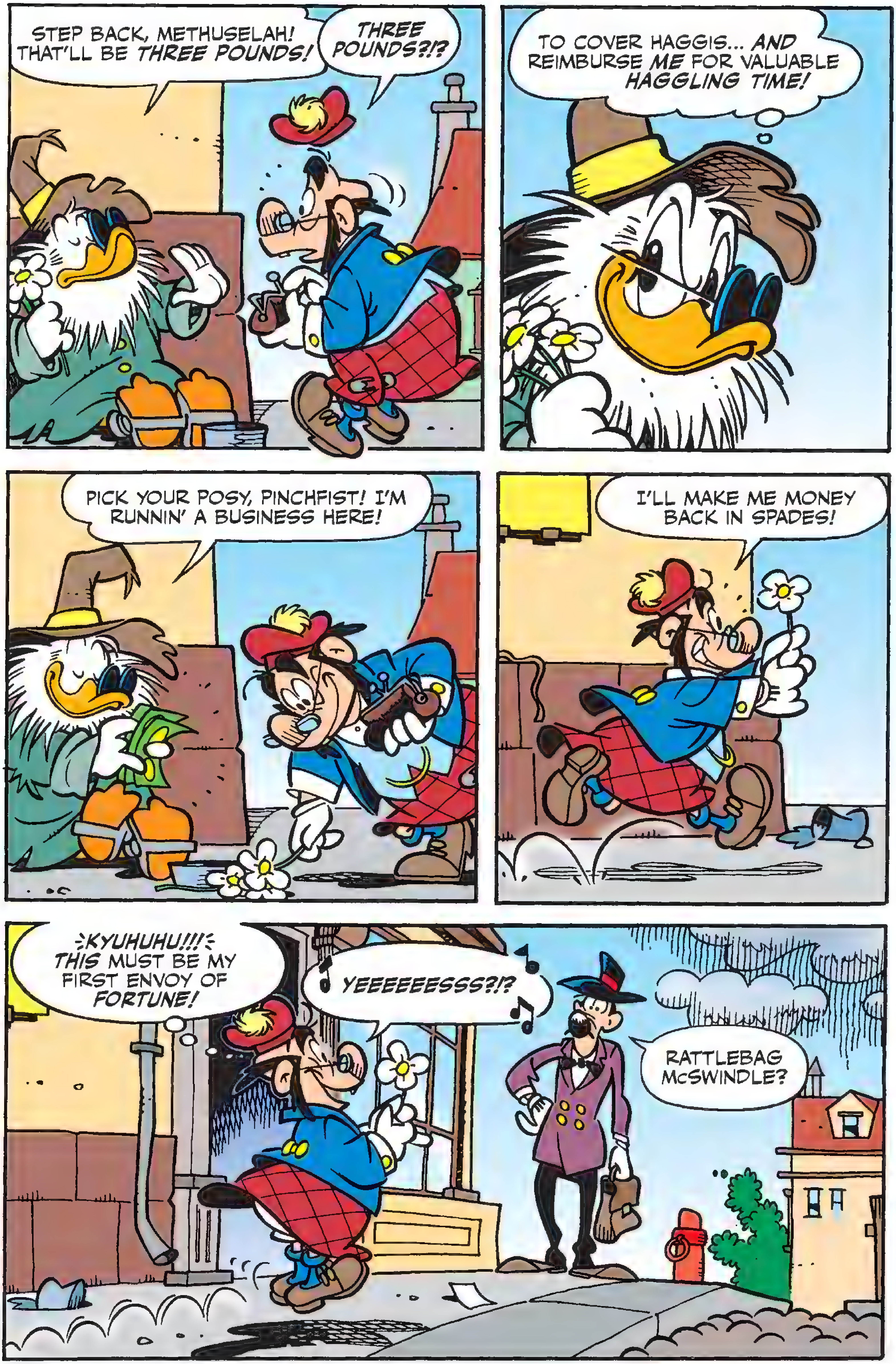

"CAME THE DAWN!"
LUCKY POSIES FOR SALE!...
HIGGINS COURT
DRINK! BRASSY BREW SODA
PRETTY POSIES FOR GOOD LUCK! ONLY *15 PENCE!*
STUPID VAGRANT! YE COULDN'T PICK A *WRONGER* SPOT TO SHILL FOR MONEY! KYUHUHUUU!
HERE YOU GO, YOU WRETCHED THING!
BLESSED DAY, YOU EPITOME OF MORAL RECTITUDE!
PLINK
TAKE THIS POSY! IT'LL BRING YOU *GOOD LUCK!*
THANK YOU!


⁏KYUHUHUHUUU!⁏ HOW CAN YE BE SO NAÏVE?!
LUCK IS FOR ANNOYING DANDIES IN FANCY HATS! WHAT A *WASTE* O' MONEY!
⁏HMF!⁏ *I'LL* BE THE JUDGE OF—
LOOK OUT!
YOWP!
LOW BRIDGE!
WHAM!
PHILISTINE! ROAD HOG! CYCLIST!

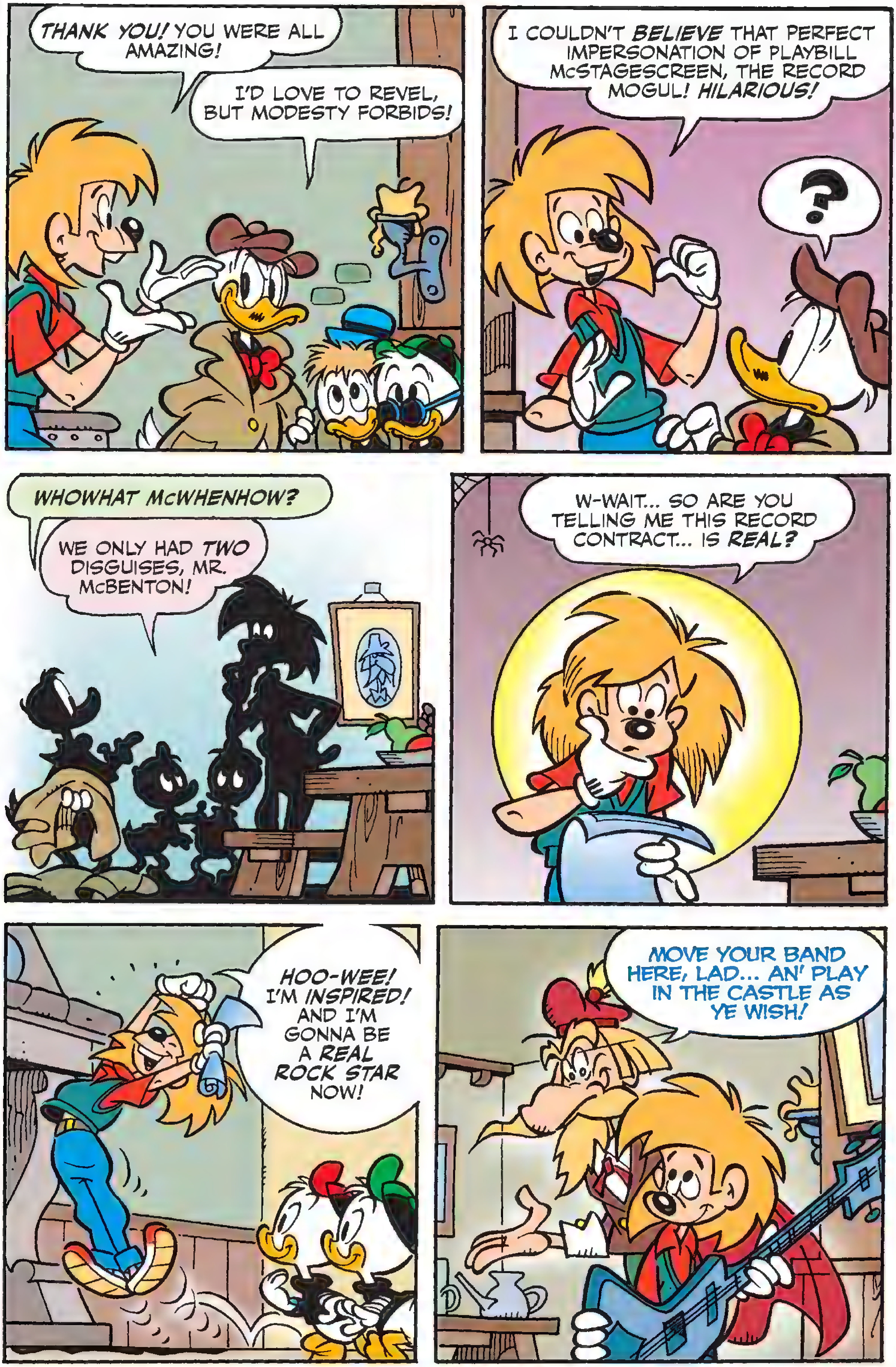

HEY... THAT JERK WENT AND DROPPED HIS *WALLET!*
HUH! NO I.D., SO... EGAD! *100 POUNDS* ARE MINE!
WOOHOO! THE FLOWER WORKS! I'M A *LUCKMEISTER!*
BAH! COINCIDENCE AN' BOONDOGGLE!
HI THERE! YOU *JAMEY McBENTON?* OWNER OF McBENTON CASTLE?
YUP! THAT'S ME ALL OVER!
?

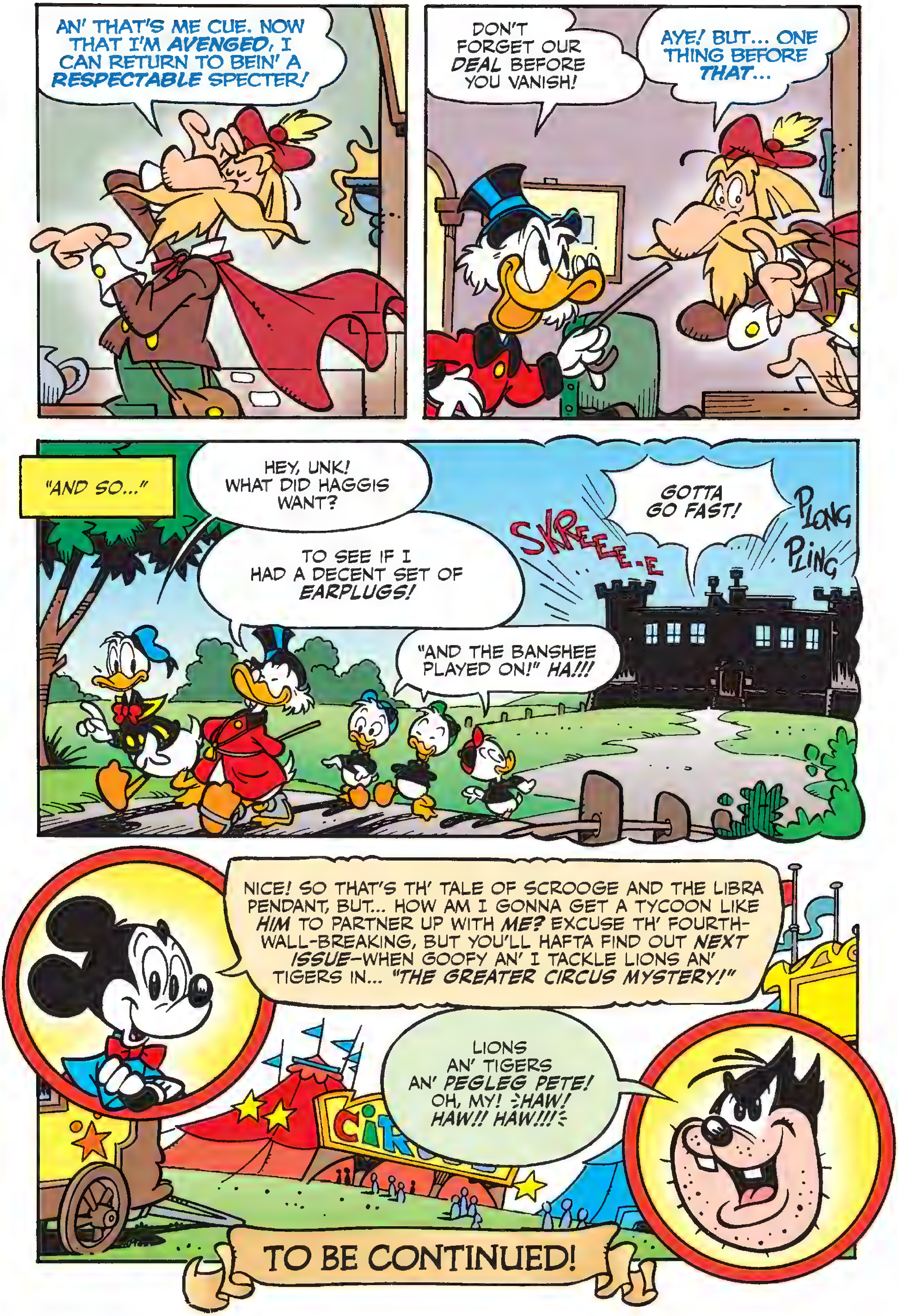

LUCKY YOU! I, CHEERIO McGIVE-AWAY, SECRETARY COMMISSIONER FOR THE NATIONAL LOTTERY OF SCOTLAND, AM HAPPY TO INFORM YOU...
...THAT YOU'VE WON OUR GRAND PRIZE OF ONE MILLION POUNDS!
GLEEP!!!
YIPPEE! I'M RICH! I'M WEALTHY! I'M REASONABLY WELL OFF AFTER TAXES!
AND IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU, SIR!
TIME TO LAY THIS ON THICK!
ARE YOU JIM OF JIM AND THE HOLLOW HAMS?
?
UH... Y–

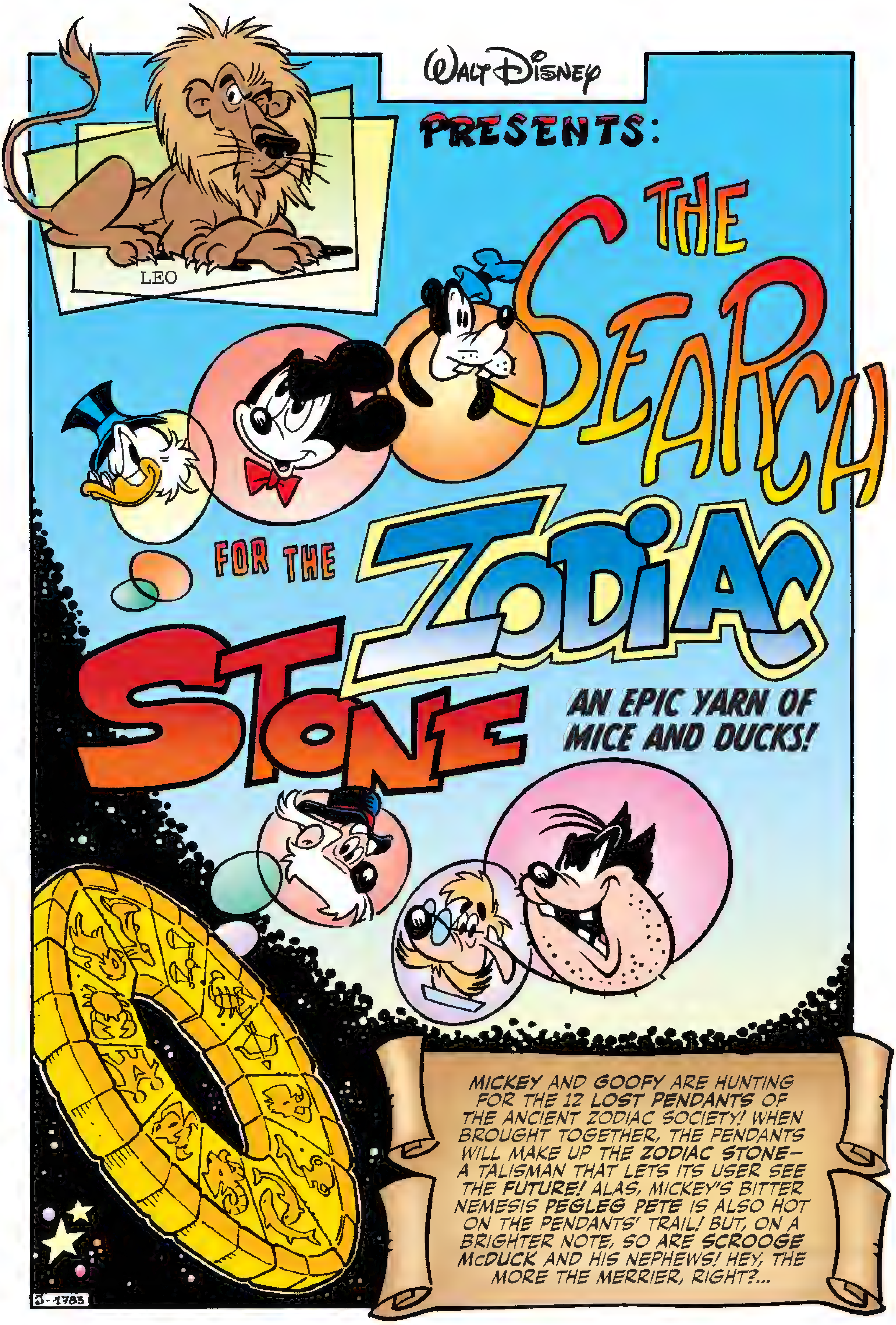

HIYA HIYA HIYA! I'M PLAYBILL McSTAGESCREEN, PRESIDENT OF TOOT RECORDS, PLUNK RECORDS, WHISTLE RECORDS AND BOOM RECORDS! WE GOT RECORDS OUT TH' YIN-YANG! PLEASED TO MEETCHA! (GET A HAIRCUT.)
JIM, YOU'RE THE NEW HOTNESS! YA GOT TALENT! YA GOT MOXY! YA GOT PANACHE! YOU'LL BE AMAZING! TRULY TRULY TRULY AMAZING!
GLAMOUR, GLITTER, FASHION, FAME, FULL-BLOWN CONCERTS WITH GROUPIES! ALL ON THIS CONTRACT!
WHOA MOMMA!
SIGN ON THE DOTTED LINE AND IT'S YOURS, JIM! YOURS YOURS YOURS!!!
THIS IS IT! I'VE HIT THE BIG TIME!
GNYAH!!! ENOUGH IS TOO MUCH!!!
WHAM!
SLAM!
THUMP!
HOOTS, MON! GIMME ONE O' THEM POSIES, BUT QUICK!


STEP BACK, METHUSELAH! THAT'LL BE *THREE POUNDS!*
THREE POUNDS?!?
TO COVER HAGGIS... *AND* REIMBURSE *ME* FOR VALUABLE *HAGGLING TIME!*
PICK YOUR POSY, PINCHFIST! I'M RUNNIN' A BUSINESS HERE!
I'LL MAKE ME MONEY BACK IN SPADES!
KYUHUHU!!! *THIS* MUST BE MY FIRST ENVOY OF *FORTUNE!*
YEEEEEEESSS?!?
RATTLEBAG McSWINDLE?

I'M KILLJOY McCRUSHDOWNER, LOCAL *TAX INSPECTOR!* I'LL NEED TO SEE ALL YOUR RECEIPTS IMMEDIATELY!
AARGH!
PUH-PEH-PA-POSY. MY LE-LI-LE-LUCK. DIDN'T W-WORK! *THREE POUNDS...*
YOU! *I WANT MY MONEY* B-AAAACK?!?!!?
"LATER, AT THE CASTLE...."
BWA-HAHA!!!
I'D DIE FROM *LAUGHTER* IF I WEREN'T *ALREADY DEAD!*
OH, *MY SIDES!*
I'M DYIN' NOW! HAHAHA!!!


THANK YOU! YOU WERE ALL AMAZING!
I'D LOVE TO REVEL, BUT MODESTY FORBIDS!
I COULDN'T BELIEVE THAT PERFECT IMPERSONATION OF PLAYBILL McSTAGESCREEN, THE RECORD MOGUL! HILARIOUS!
?
WHOWHAT McWHENHOW?
WE ONLY HAD TWO DISGUISES, MR. McBENTON!
W-WAIT... SO ARE YOU TELLING ME THIS RECORD CONTRACT... IS REAL?
HOO-WEE! I'M INSPIRED! AND I'M GONNA BE A REAL ROCK STAR NOW!
MOVE YOUR BAND HERE, LAD... AN' PLAY IN THE CASTLE AS YE WISH!


AN' THAT'S ME CUE. NOW THAT I'M *AVENGED*, I CAN RETURN TO BEIN' A *RESPECTABLE* SPECTER!
DON'T FORGET OUR *DEAL* BEFORE YOU VANISH!
AYE! BUT... ONE THING BEFORE *THAT*...
"AND SO..."
HEY, UNK! WHAT DID HAGGIS WANT?
TO SEE IF I HAD A DECENT SET OF *EARPLUGS!*
"AND THE BANSHEE PLAYED ON!" *HA!!!*
SKREEEE-E
GOTTA GO FAST!
PLONG PLING
NICE! SO THAT'S TH' TALE OF SCROOGE AND THE LIBRA PENDANT, BUT... HOW AM I GONNA GET A TYCOON LIKE *HIM* TO PARTNER UP WITH *ME?* EXCUSE TH' FOURTH-WALL-BREAKING, BUT YOU'LL HAFTA FIND OUT *NEXT ISSUE*—WHEN GOOFY AN' I TACKLE LIONS AN' TIGERS IN... *"THE GREATER CIRCUS MYSTERY!"*
LIONS AN' TIGERS AN' *PEGLEG PETE!* OH, MY! *HAW! HAW!! HAW!!!*
CIRC
TO BE CONTINUED!


WALT DISNEY
PRESENTS:
THE SEARCH FOR THE ZODIAC STONE
AN EPIC YARN OF MICE AND DUCKS!
LEO
MICKEY AND GOOFY ARE HUNTING FOR THE 12 LOST PENDANTS OF THE ANCIENT ZODIAC SOCIETY! WHEN BROUGHT TOGETHER, THE PENDANTS WILL MAKE UP THE ZODIAC STONE— A TALISMAN THAT LETS ITS USER SEE THE FUTURE! ALAS, MICKEY'S BITTER NEMESIS PEGLEG PETE IS ALSO HOT ON THE PENDANTS' TRAIL! BUT, ON A BRIGHTER NOTE, SO ARE SCROOGE McDUCK AND HIS NEPHEWS! HEY, THE MORE THE MERRIER, RIGHT?...
I - 1783

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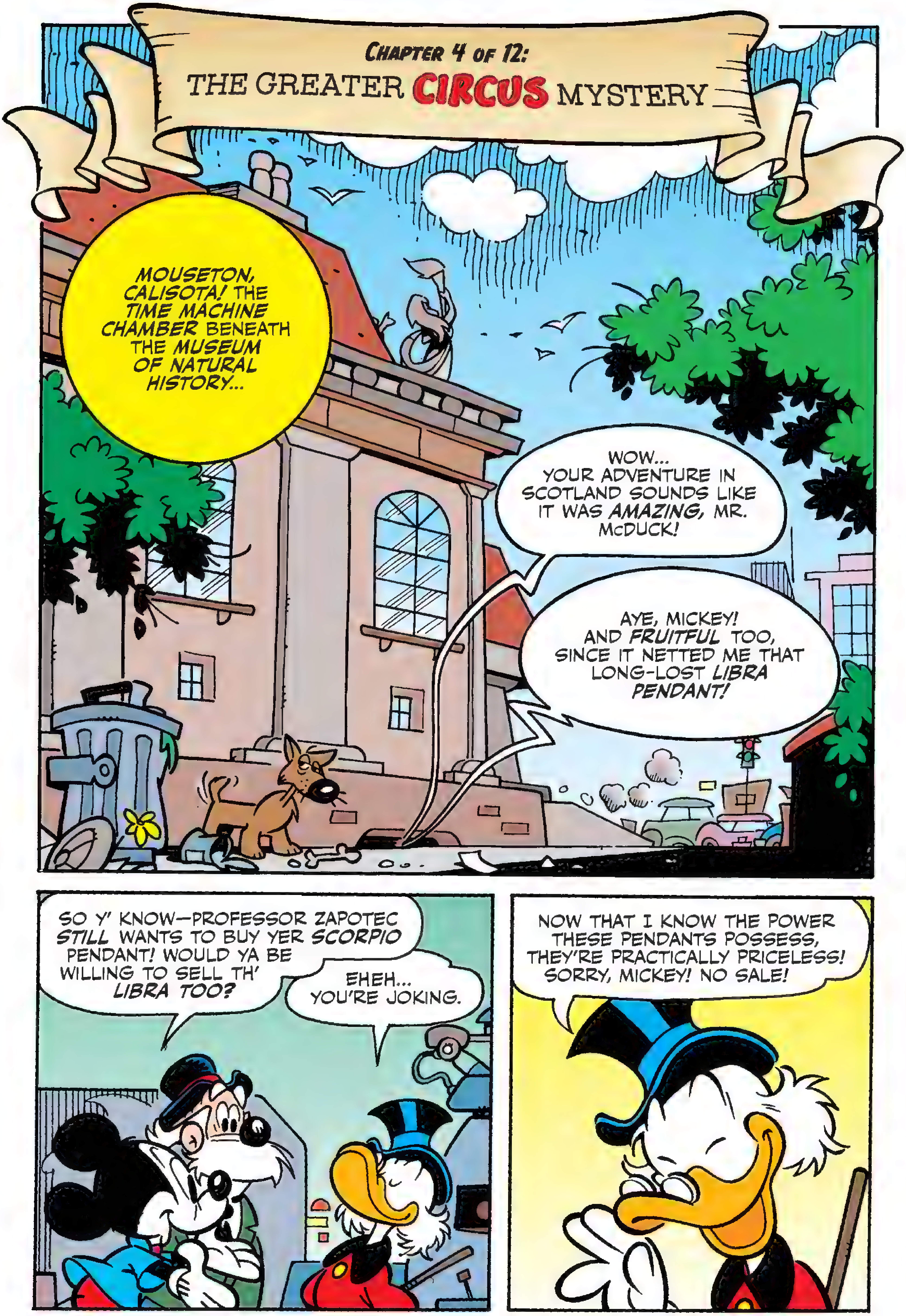
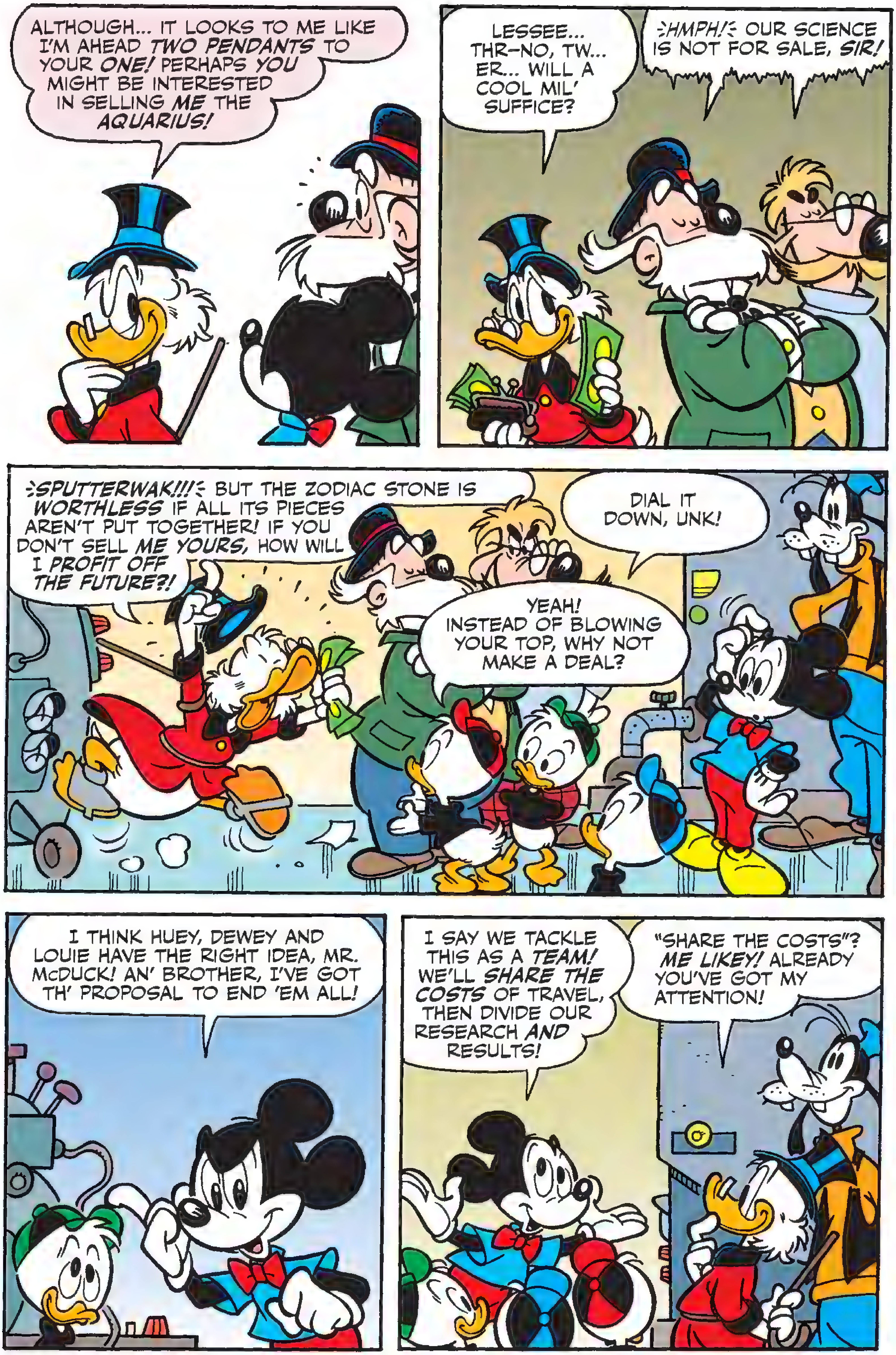
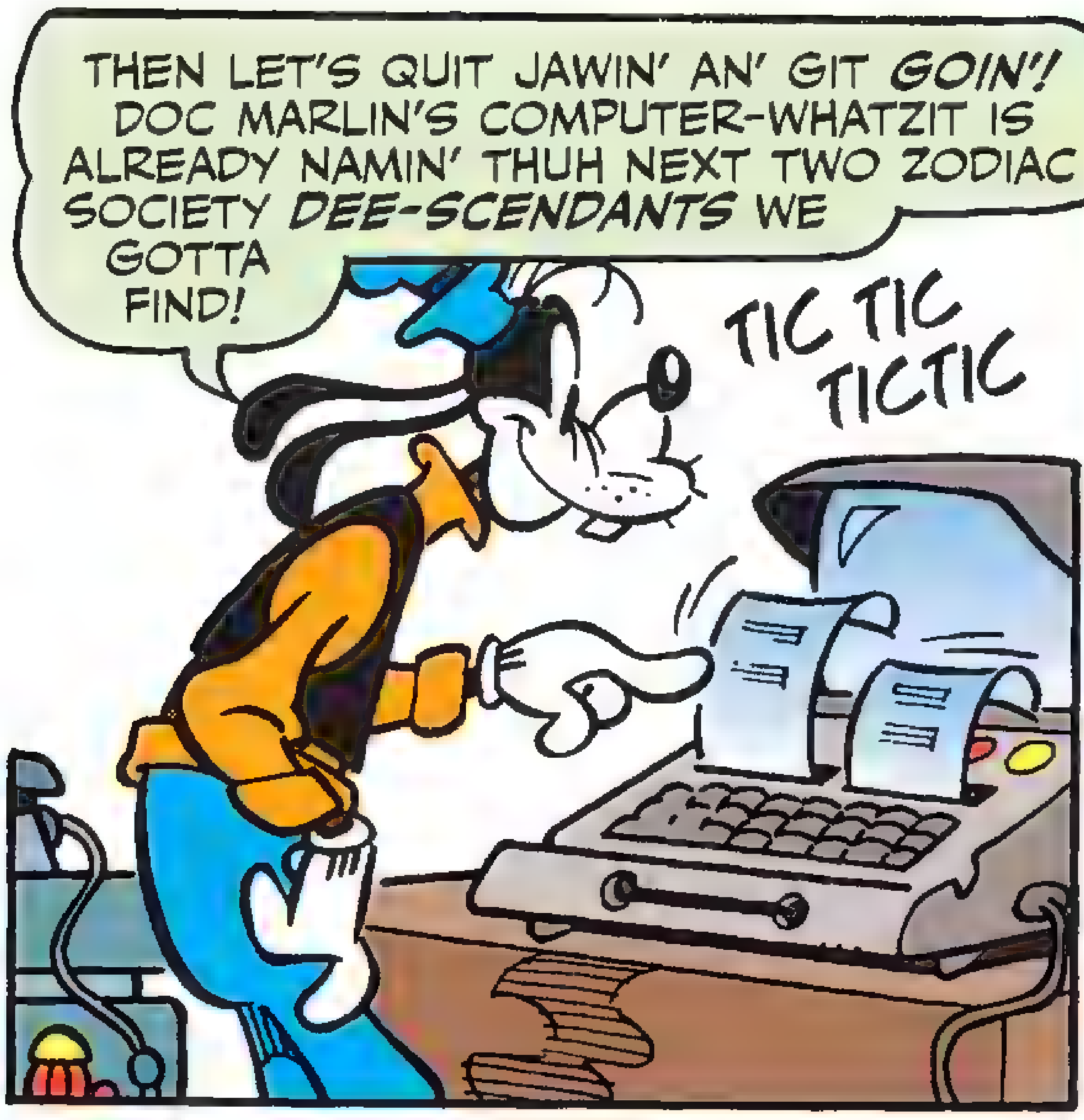
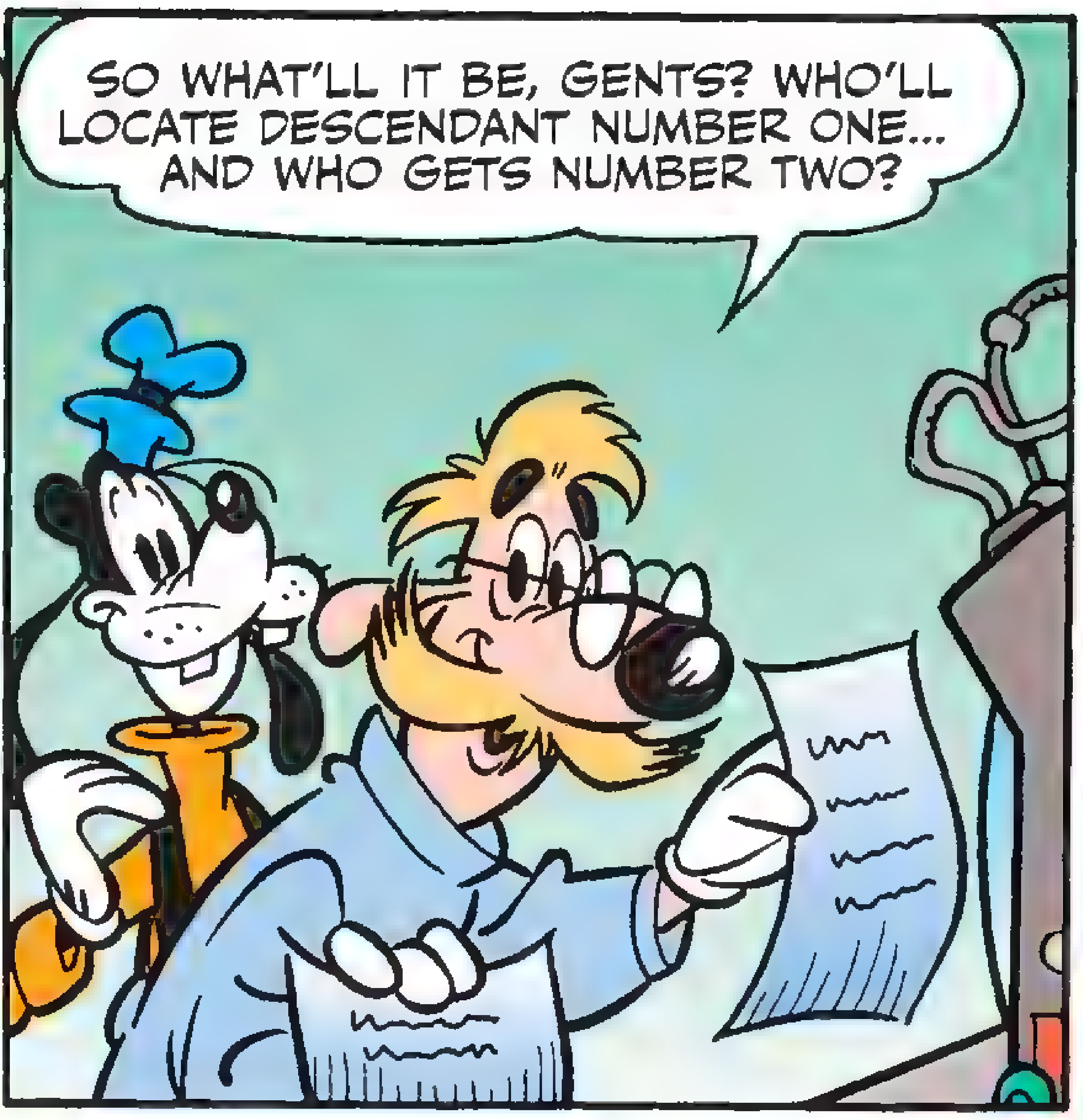
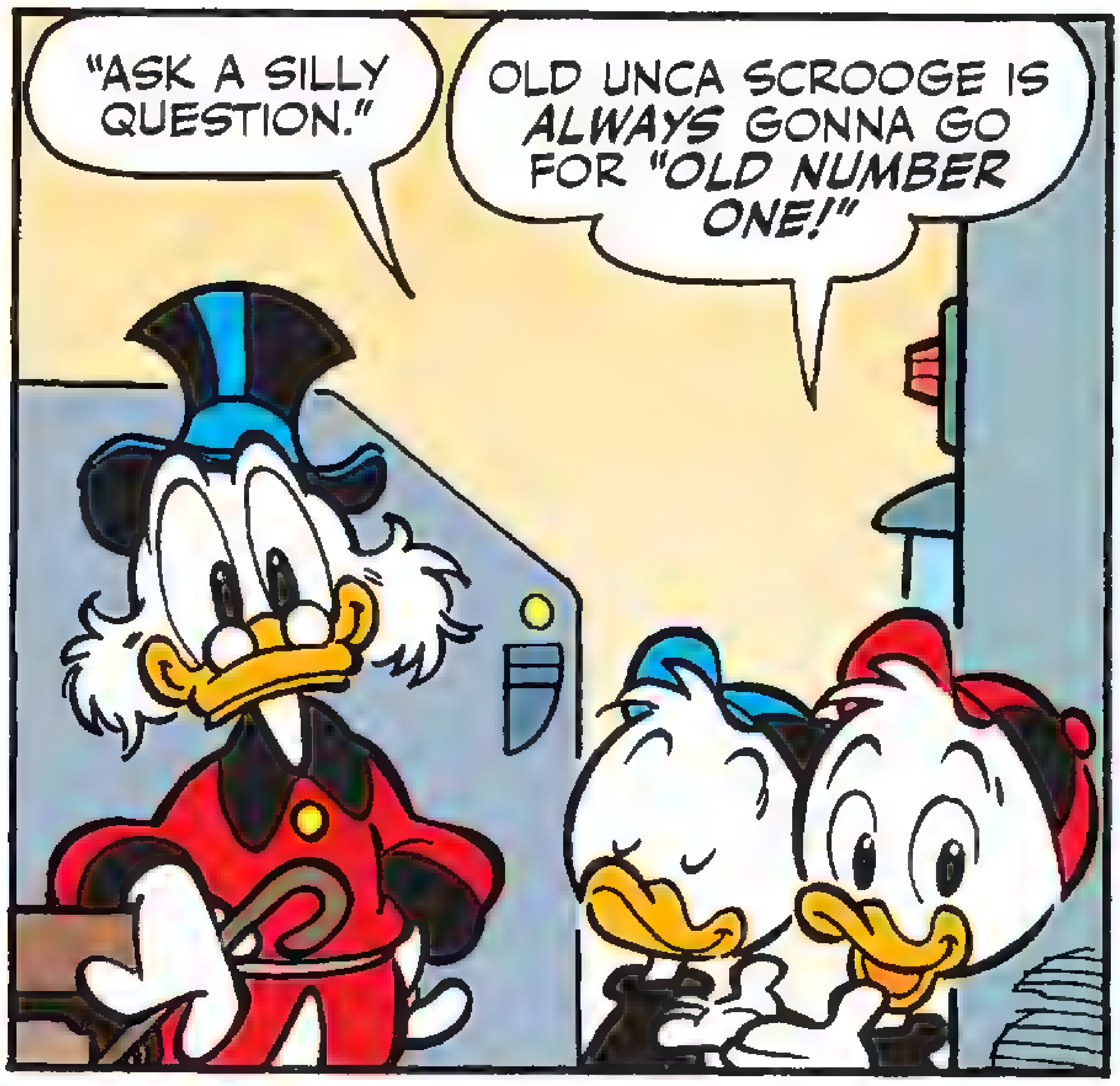
CHAPTER 4 OF 12:
THE GREATER CIRCUS MYSTERY

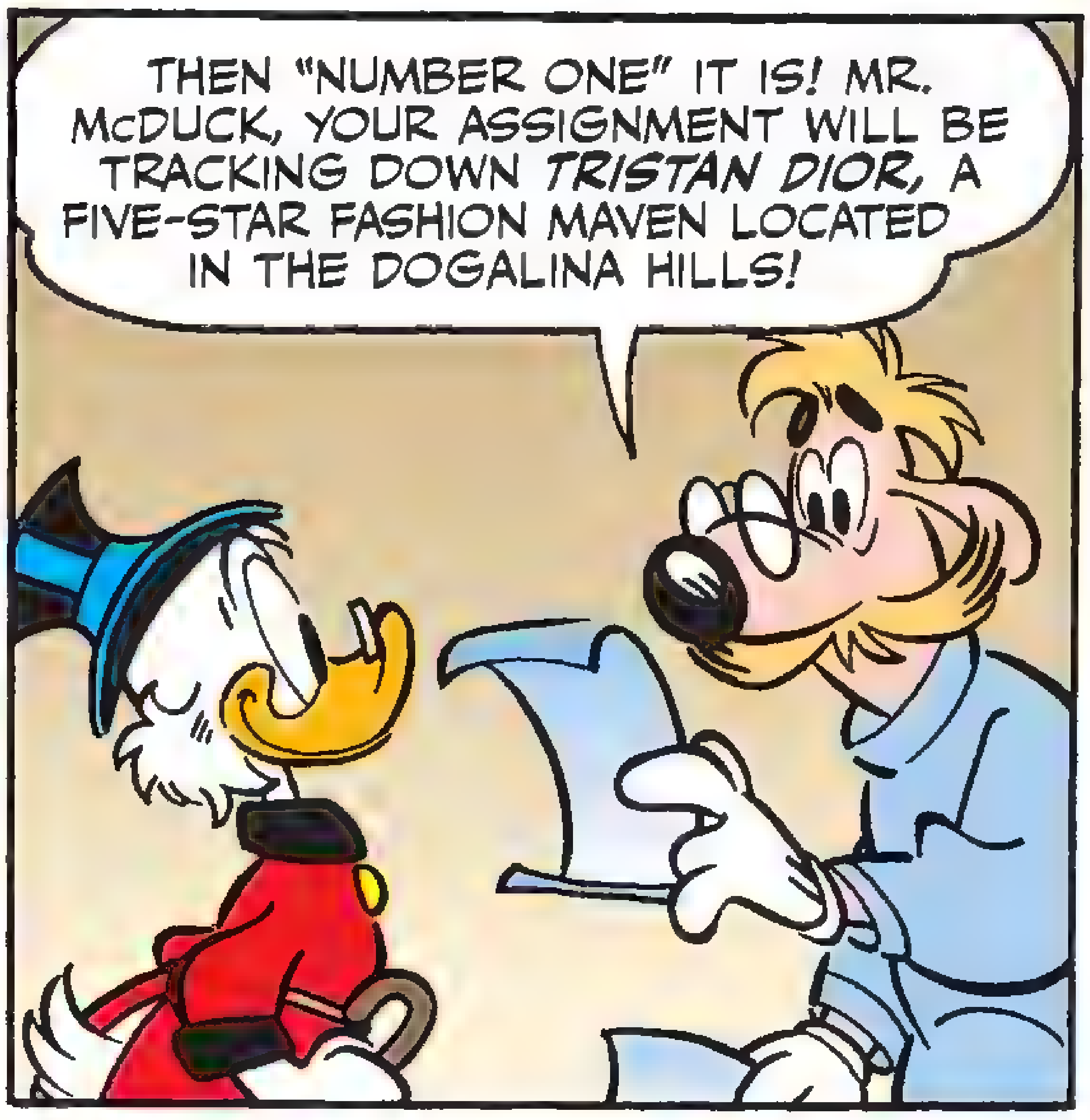

MOUSETON, CALISOTA! THE TIME MACHINE CHAMBER BENEATH THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY...
WOW... YOUR ADVENTURE IN SCOTLAND SOUNDS LIKE IT WAS AMAZING, MR. McDUCK!
AYE, MICKEY! AND FRUITFUL TOO, SINCE IT NETTED ME THAT LONG-LOST LIBRA PENDANT!
SO Y' KNOW—PROFESSOR ZAPOTEC STILL WANTS TO BUY YER SCORPIO PENDANT! WOULD YA BE WILLING TO SELL TH' LIBRA TOO?
EHEH... YOU'RE JOKING.
NOW THAT I KNOW THE POWER THESE PENDANTS POSSESS, THEY'RE PRACTICALLY PRICELESS! SORRY, MICKEY! NO SALE!

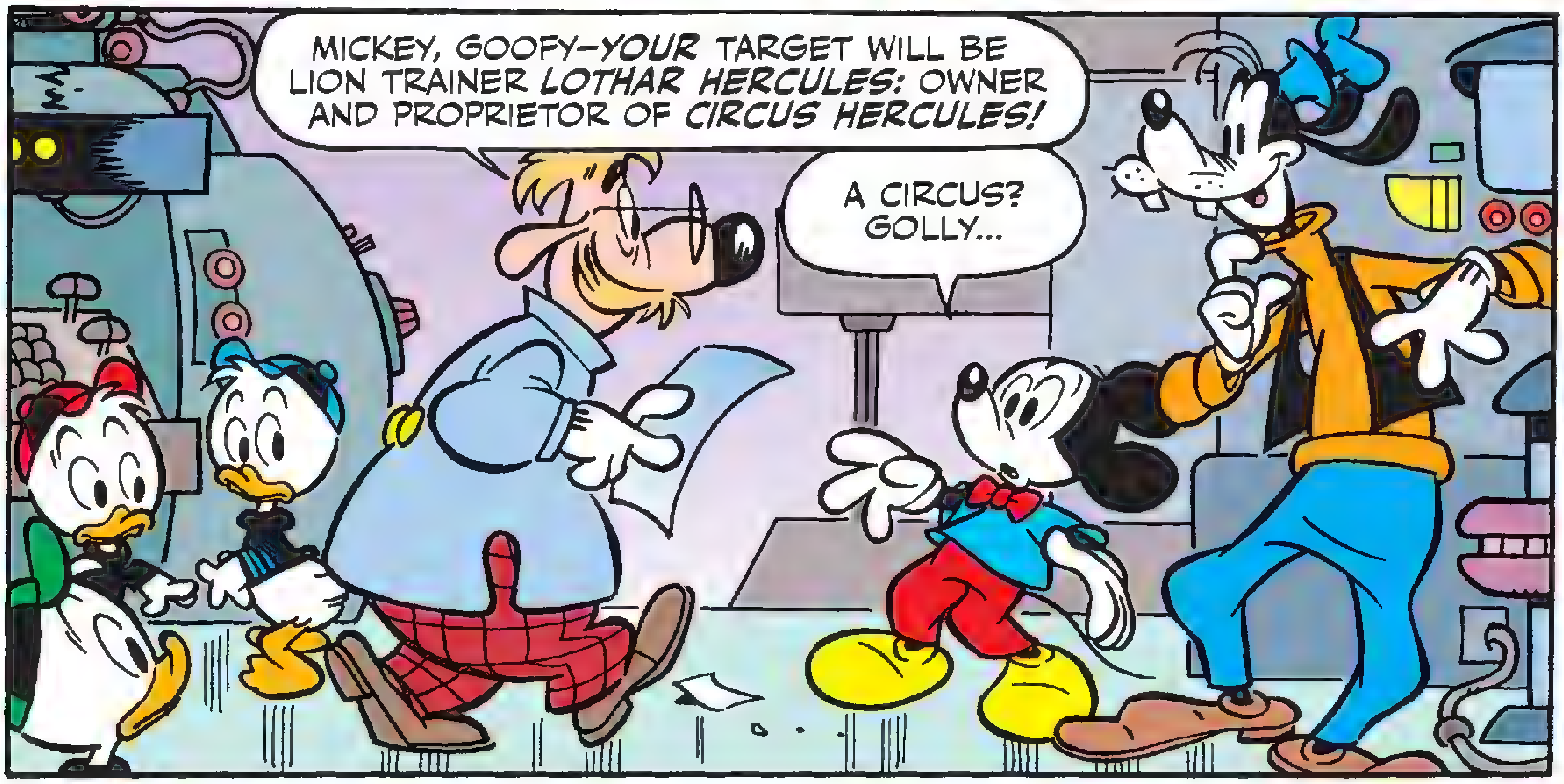

ALTHOUGH... IT LOOKS TO ME LIKE I'M AHEAD *TWO PENDANTS* TO YOUR *ONE!* PERHAPS *YOU* MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN SELLING *ME* THE *AQUARIUS!*
LESSEE... THR–NO, TW... ER... WILL A COOL MIL' SUFFICE?
HMPH! OUR SCIENCE IS NOT FOR SALE, *SIR!*
SPUTTERWAK!!! BUT THE ZODIAC STONE IS *WORTHLESS* IF ALL ITS PIECES AREN'T PUT TOGETHER! IF YOU DON'T SELL *ME YOURS,* HOW WILL I *PROFIT OFF THE FUTURE?!*
DIAL IT DOWN, UNK!
YEAH! INSTEAD OF BLOWING YOUR TOP, WHY NOT MAKE A DEAL?
I THINK HUEY, DEWEY AND LOUIE HAVE THE RIGHT IDEA, MR. McDUCK! AN' BROTHER, I'VE GOT TH' PROPOSAL TO END 'EM ALL!
I SAY WE TACKLE THIS AS A *TEAM!* WE'LL *SHARE THE COSTS* OF TRAVEL, THEN DIVIDE OUR RESEARCH *AND* RESULTS!
"SHARE THE COSTS"? *ME LIKEY!* ALREADY YOU'VE GOT MY ATTENTION!

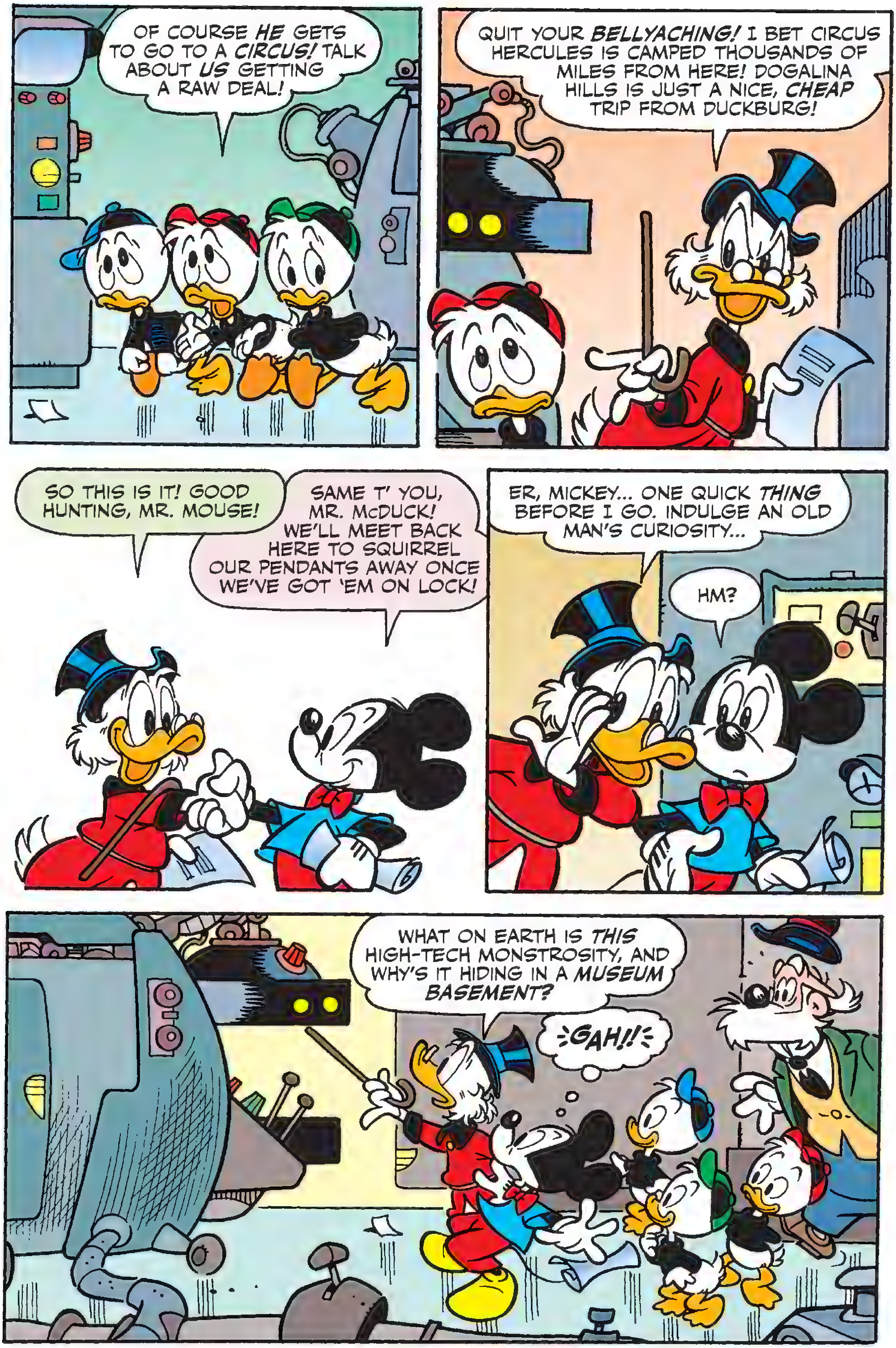

THEN LET'S QUIT JAWIN' AN' GIT *GOIN'!* DOC MARLIN'S COMPUTER-WHATZIT IS ALREADY NAMIN' THUH NEXT TWO ZODIAC SOCIETY *DEE-SCENDANTS* WE GOTTA FIND!
TIC TIC TICTIC

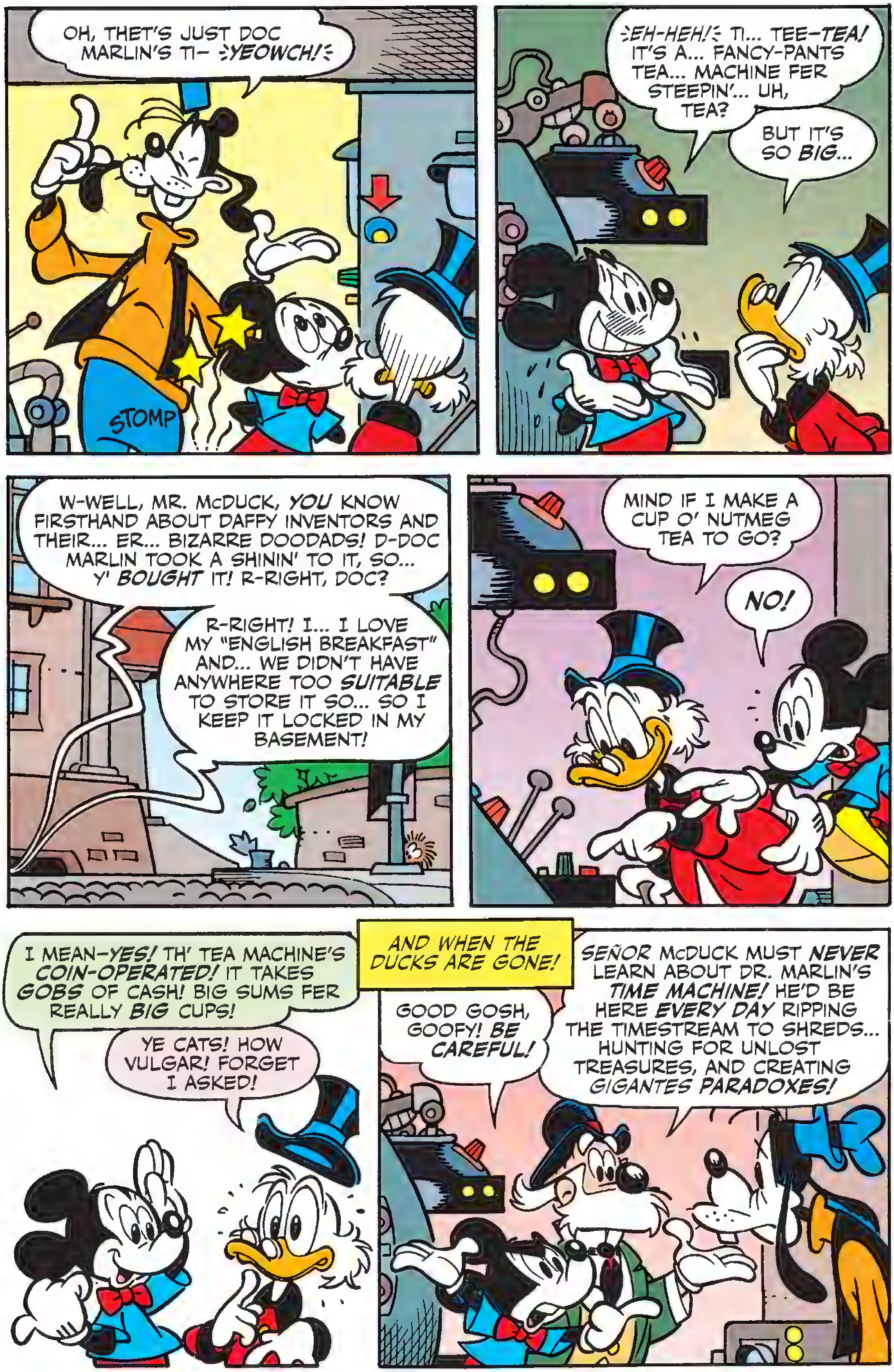

SO WHAT'LL IT BE, GENTS? WHO'LL LOCATE DESCENDANT NUMBER ONE... AND WHO GETS NUMBER TWO?

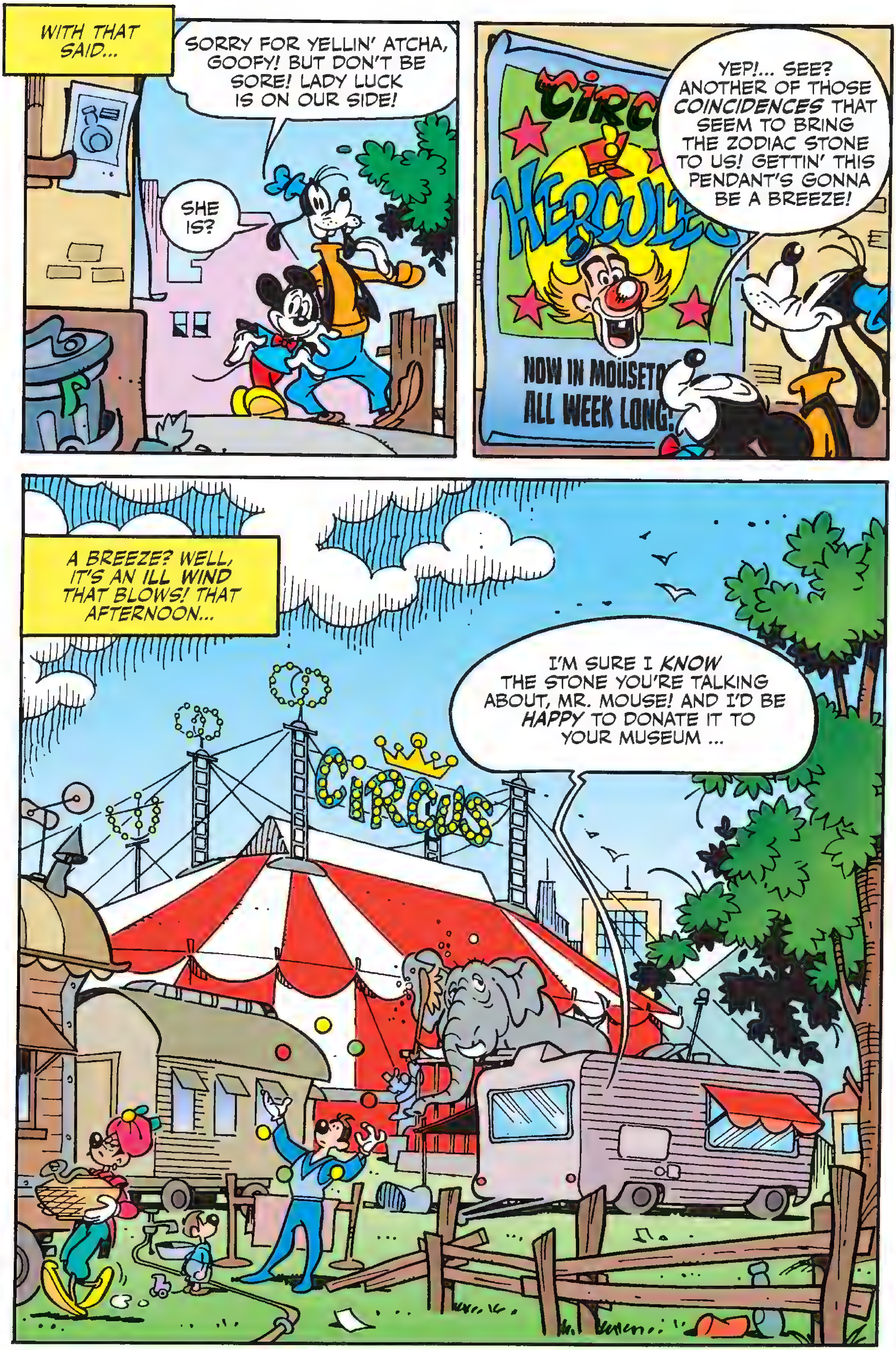

"ASK A SILLY QUESTION."
OLD UNCA SCROOGE IS *ALWAYS* GONNA GO FOR *"OLD NUMBER ONE!"*

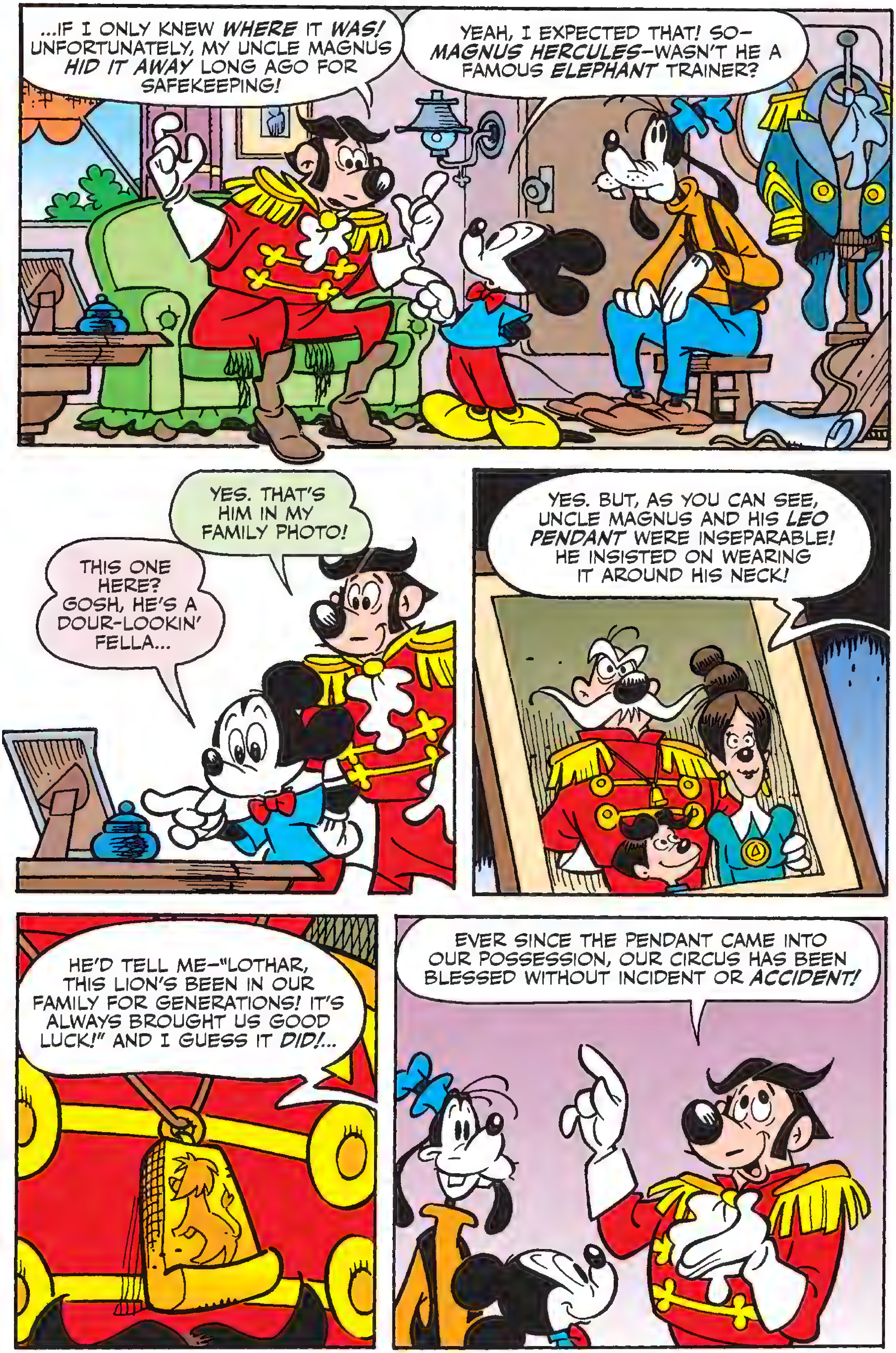

THEN "NUMBER ONE" IT IS! MR. McDUCK, YOUR ASSIGNMENT WILL BE TRACKING DOWN *TRISTAN DIOR,* A FIVE-STAR FASHION MAVEN LOCATED IN THE DOGALINA HILLS!

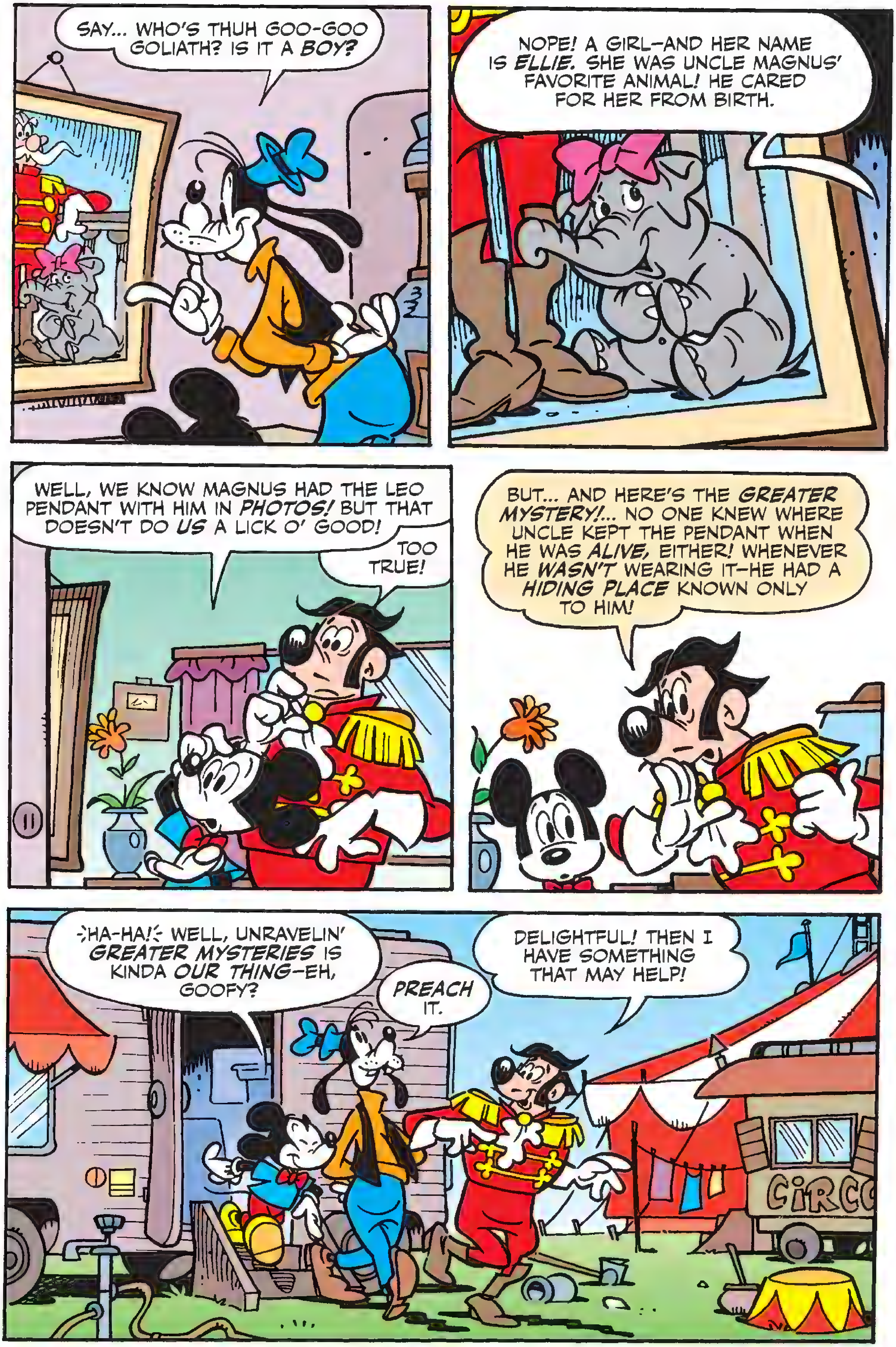

MICKEY, GOOFY–*YOUR* TARGET WILL BE LION TRAINER *LOTHAR HERCULES:* OWNER AND PROPRIETOR OF *CIRCUS HERCULES!*
A CIRCUS? GOLLY...

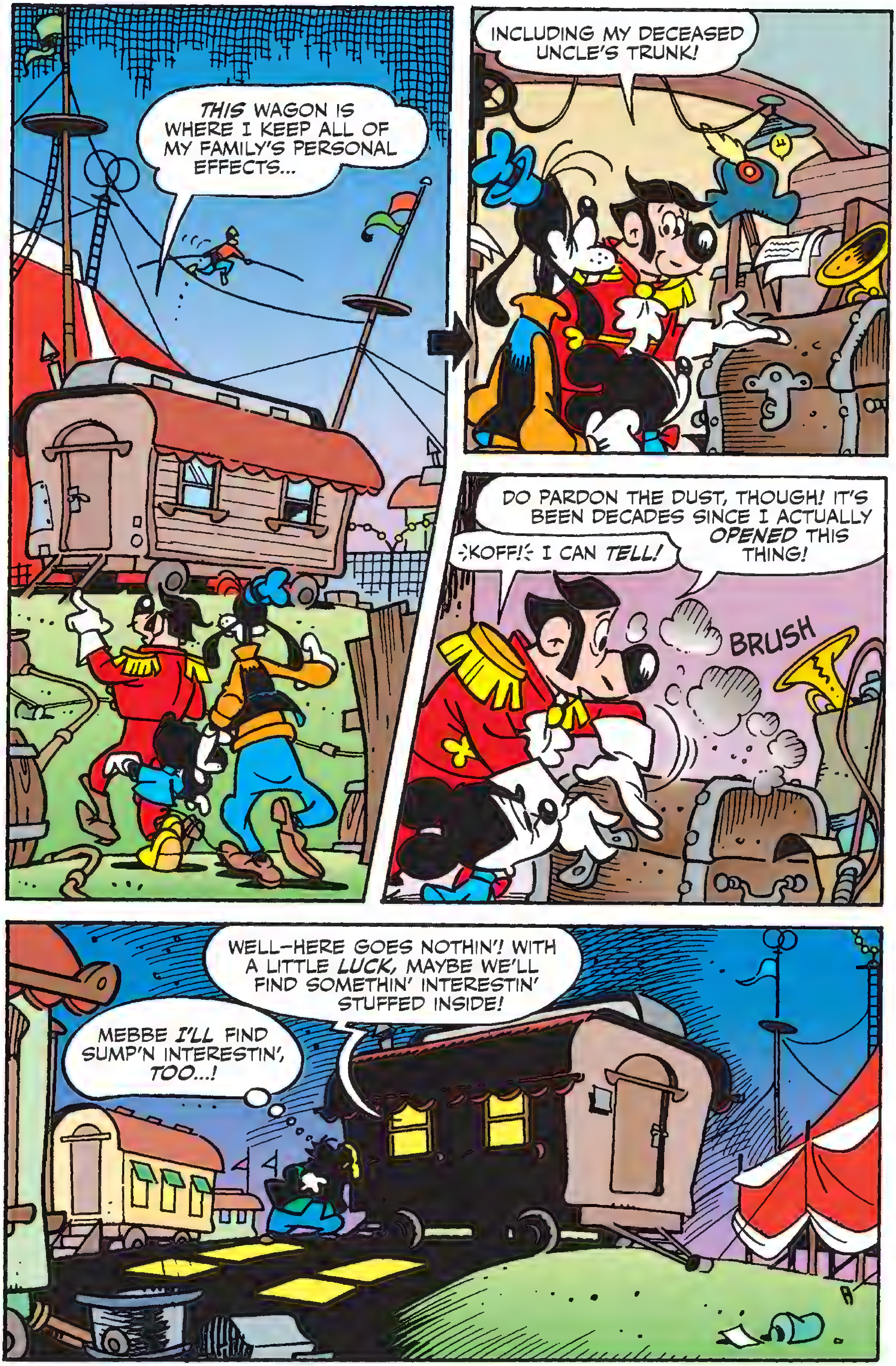

OF COURSE *HE* GETS TO GO TO A *CIRCUS!* TALK ABOUT *US* GETTING A RAW DEAL!
QUIT YOUR *BELLYACHING!* I BET CIRCUS HERCULES IS CAMPED THOUSANDS OF MILES FROM HERE! DOGALINA HILLS IS JUST A NICE, *CHEAP* TRIP FROM DUCKBURG!
SO THIS IS IT! GOOD HUNTING, MR. MOUSE!
SAME T' YOU, MR. McDUCK! WE'LL MEET BACK HERE TO SQUIRREL OUR PENDANTS AWAY ONCE WE'VE GOT 'EM ON LOCK!
ER, MICKEY... ONE QUICK *THING* BEFORE I GO. INDULGE AN OLD MAN'S CURIOSITY...
HM?
WHAT ON EARTH IS *THIS* HIGH-TECH MONSTROSITY, AND WHY'S IT HIDING IN A *MUSEUM BASEMENT?*
GAH!!

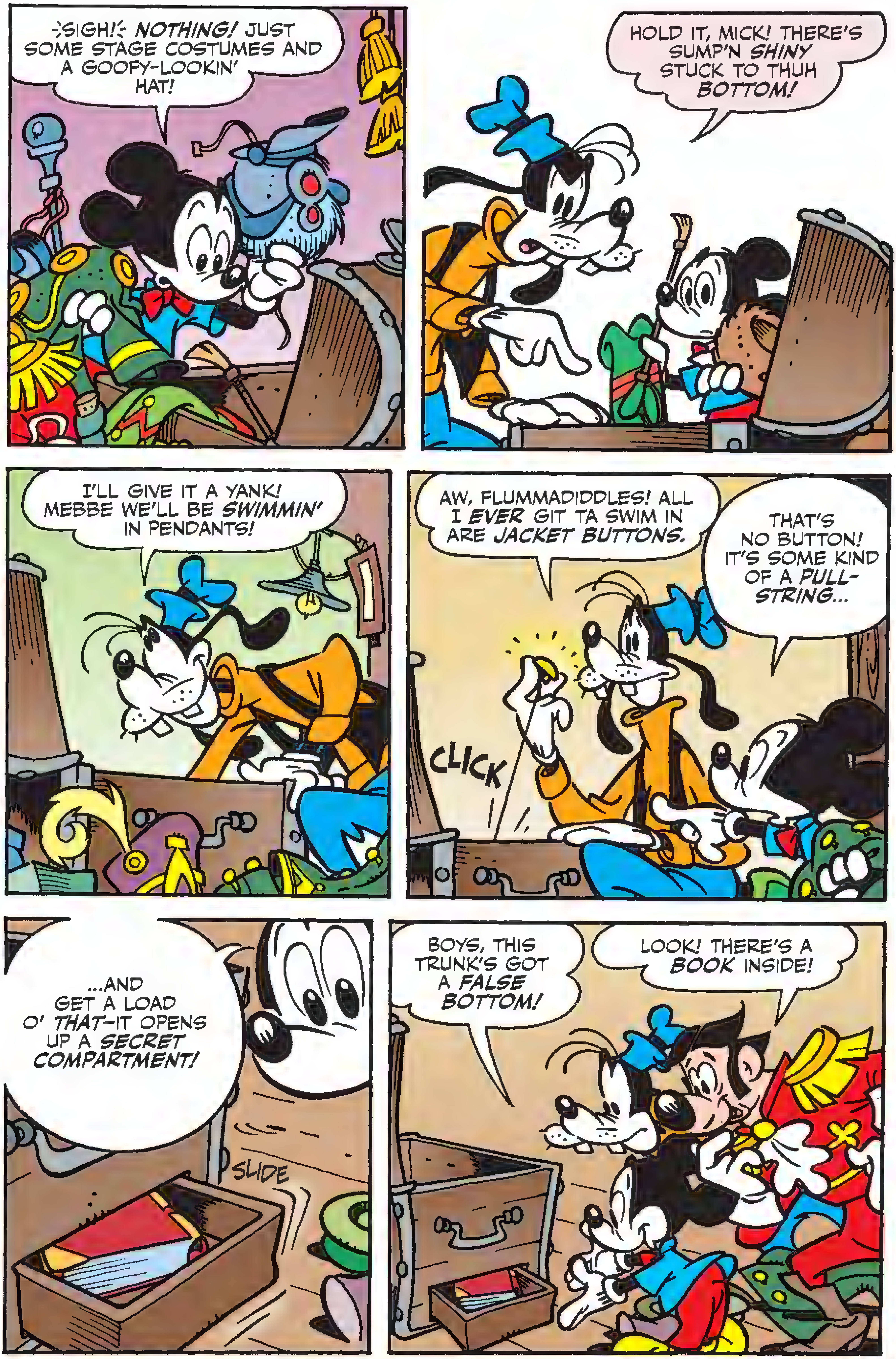

OH, THET'S JUST DOC MARLIN'S TI– ⋮YEOWCH!⋮
STOMP
⋮EH-HEH!⋮ TI... TEE–TEA! IT'S A... FANCY-PANTS TEA... MACHINE FER STEEPIN'... UH, TEA?
BUT IT'S SO BIG...
W-WELL, MR. McDUCK, YOU KNOW FIRSTHAND ABOUT DAFFY INVENTORS AND THEIR... ER... BIZARRE DOODADS! D-DOC MARLIN TOOK A SHININ' TO IT, SO... Y' BOUGHT IT! R-RIGHT, DOC?
R-RIGHT! I... I LOVE MY "ENGLISH BREAKFAST" AND... WE DIDN'T HAVE ANYWHERE TOO SUITABLE TO STORE IT SO... SO I KEEP IT LOCKED IN MY BASEMENT!
MIND IF I MAKE A CUP O' NUTMEG TEA TO GO?
NO!
I MEAN–YES! TH' TEA MACHINE'S COIN-OPERATED! IT TAKES GOBS OF CASH! BIG SUMS FER REALLY BIG CUPS!
YE CATS! HOW VULGAR! FORGET I ASKED!
AND WHEN THE DUCKS ARE GONE!
GOOD GOSH, GOOFY! BE CAREFUL!
SEÑOR McDUCK MUST NEVER LEARN ABOUT DR. MARLIN'S TIME MACHINE! HE'D BE HERE EVERY DAY RIPPING THE TIMESTREAM TO SHREDS... HUNTING FOR UNLOST TREASURES, AND CREATING GIGANTES PARADOXES!

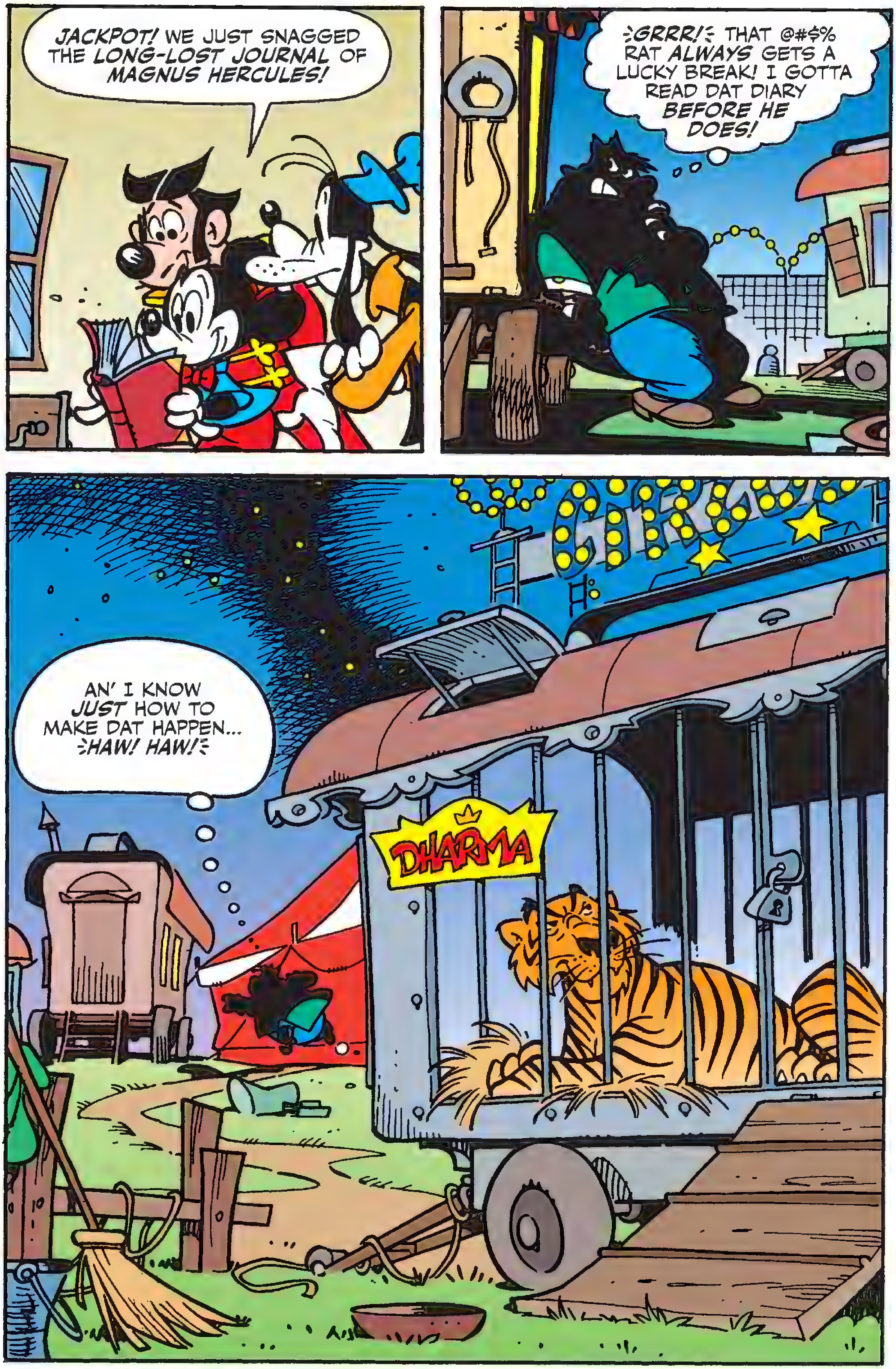

WITH THAT SAID...
SORRY FOR YELLIN' ATCHA, GOOFY! BUT DON'T BE SORE! LADY LUCK IS ON OUR SIDE!
SHE IS?
CIRC...
HERCULES
NOW IN MOUSETO...
ALL WEEK LONG!
YEP!... SEE? ANOTHER OF THOSE *COINCIDENCES* THAT SEEM TO BRING THE ZODIAC STONE TO US! GETTIN' THIS PENDANT'S GONNA BE A BREEZE!
A BREEZE? WELL, IT'S AN *ILL WIND* THAT BLOWS! THAT AFTERNOON...
CIRCUS
I'M SURE I *KNOW* THE STONE YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, MR. MOUSE! AND I'D BE *HAPPY* TO DONATE IT TO YOUR MUSEUM ...

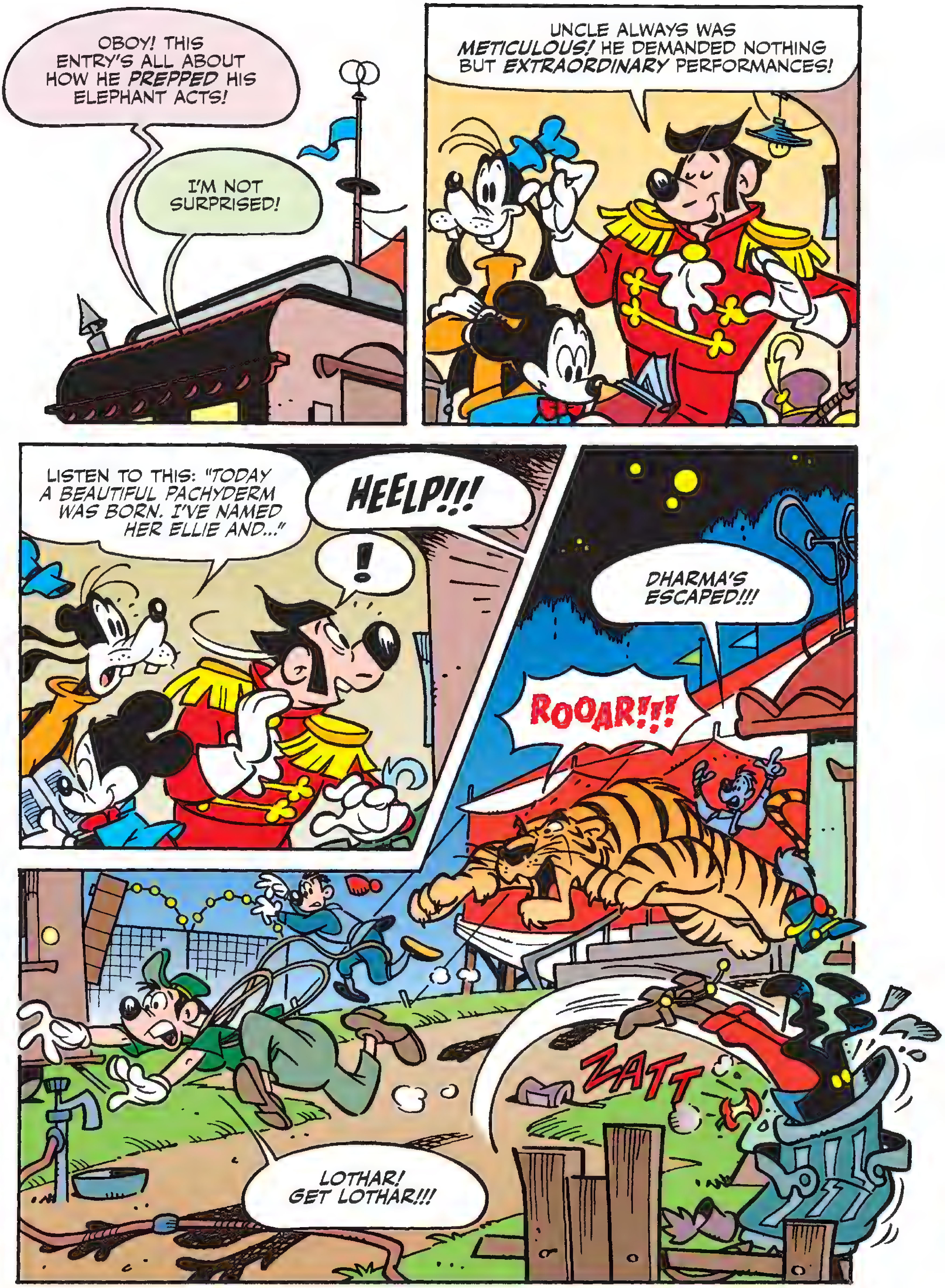

...IF I ONLY KNEW *WHERE* IT *WAS!* UNFORTUNATELY, MY UNCLE MAGNUS *HID IT AWAY* LONG AGO FOR SAFEKEEPING!
YEAH, I EXPECTED THAT! SO– *MAGNUS HERCULES*–WASN'T HE A FAMOUS *ELEPHANT* TRAINER?
YES. THAT'S HIM IN MY FAMILY PHOTO!
THIS ONE HERE? GOSH, HE'S A DOUR-LOOKIN' FELLA...
YES. BUT, AS YOU CAN SEE, UNCLE MAGNUS AND HIS *LEO PENDANT* WERE INSEPARABLE! HE INSISTED ON WEARING IT AROUND HIS NECK!
HE'D TELL ME–"LOTHAR, THIS LION'S BEEN IN OUR FAMILY FOR GENERATIONS! IT'S ALWAYS BROUGHT US GOOD LUCK!" AND I GUESS IT *DID!...*
EVER SINCE THE PENDANT CAME INTO OUR POSSESSION, OUR CIRCUS HAS BEEN BLESSED WITHOUT INCIDENT OR *ACCIDENT!*

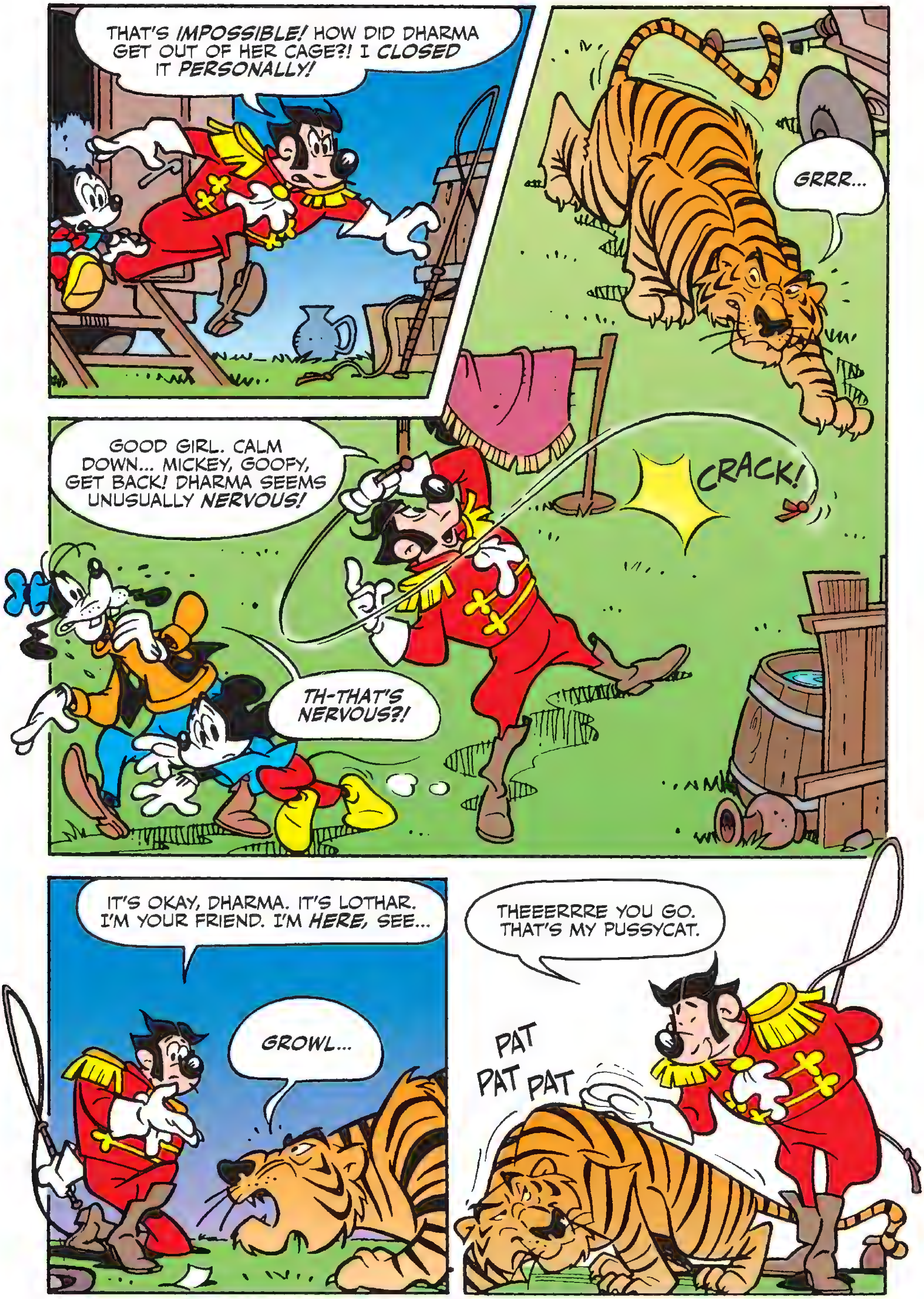

SAY... WHO'S THUH GOO-GOO GOLIATH? IS IT A *BOY?*
NOPE! A GIRL—AND HER NAME IS *ELLIE.* SHE WAS UNCLE MAGNUS' FAVORITE ANIMAL! HE CARED FOR HER FROM BIRTH.
WELL, WE KNOW MAGNUS HAD THE LEO PENDANT WITH HIM IN *PHOTOS!* BUT THAT DOESN'T DO *US* A LICK O' GOOD!
TOO TRUE!
BUT... AND HERE'S THE *GREATER MYSTERY!*... NO ONE KNEW WHERE UNCLE KEPT THE PENDANT WHEN HE WAS *ALIVE,* EITHER! WHENEVER HE *WASN'T* WEARING IT—HE HAD A *HIDING PLACE* KNOWN ONLY TO HIM!
HA-HA! WELL, UNRAVELIN' *GREATER MYSTERIES* IS KINDA *OUR THING*—EH, GOOFY?
PREACH IT.
DELIGHTFUL! THEN I HAVE SOMETHING THAT MAY HELP!
CIRCO

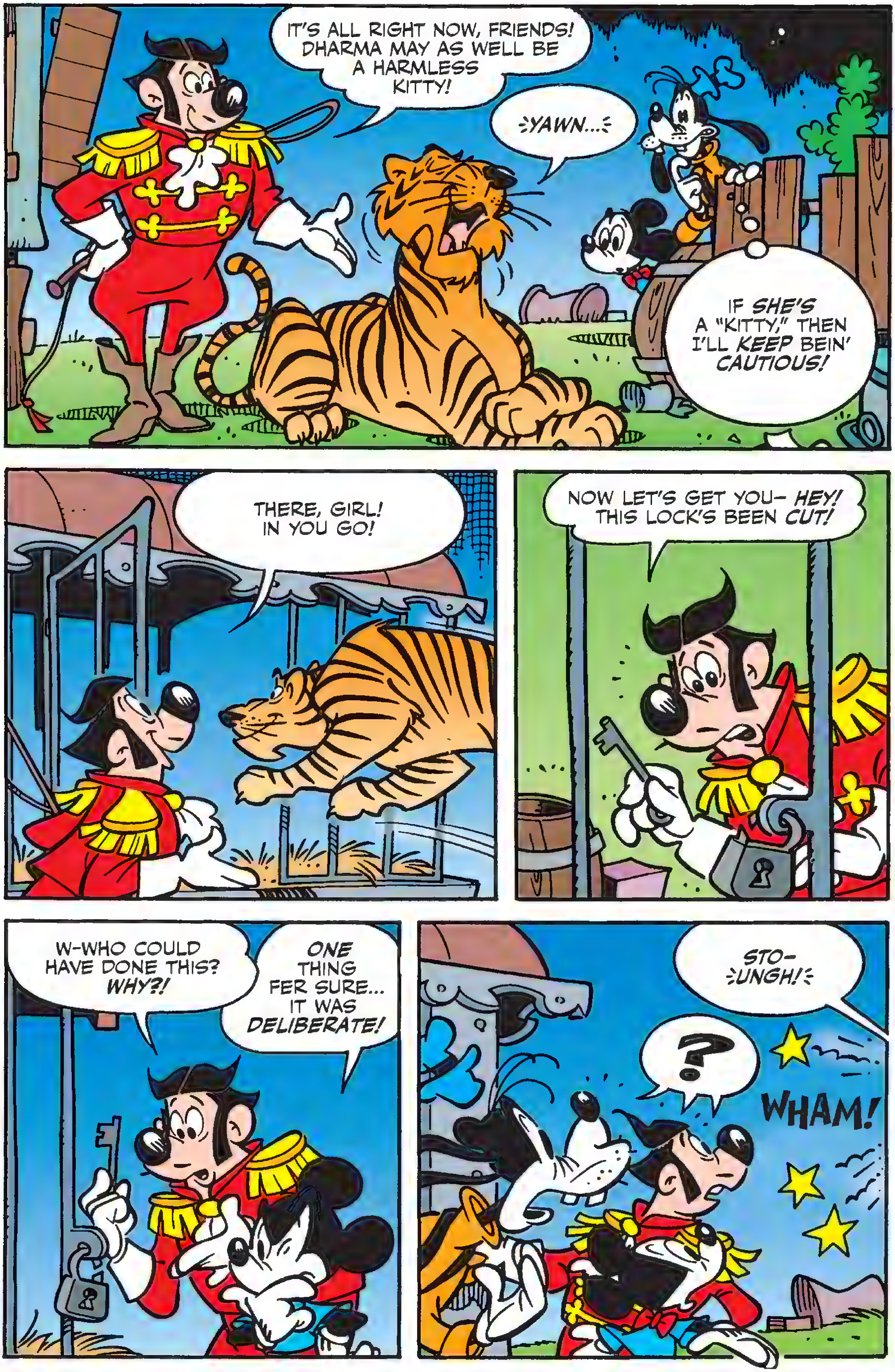

THIS WAGON IS WHERE I KEEP ALL OF MY FAMILY'S PERSONAL EFFECTS...
INCLUDING MY DECEASED UNCLE'S TRUNK!
DO PARDON THE DUST, THOUGH! IT'S BEEN DECADES SINCE I ACTUALLY *OPENED* THIS THING!
-KOFF!- I CAN *TELL!*
BRUSH
WELL-HERE GOES NOTHIN'! WITH A LITTLE *LUCK*, MAYBE WE'LL FIND SOMETHIN' INTERESTIN' STUFFED INSIDE!
MEBBE *I'LL* FIND SUMP'N INTERESTIN', *TOO...!*

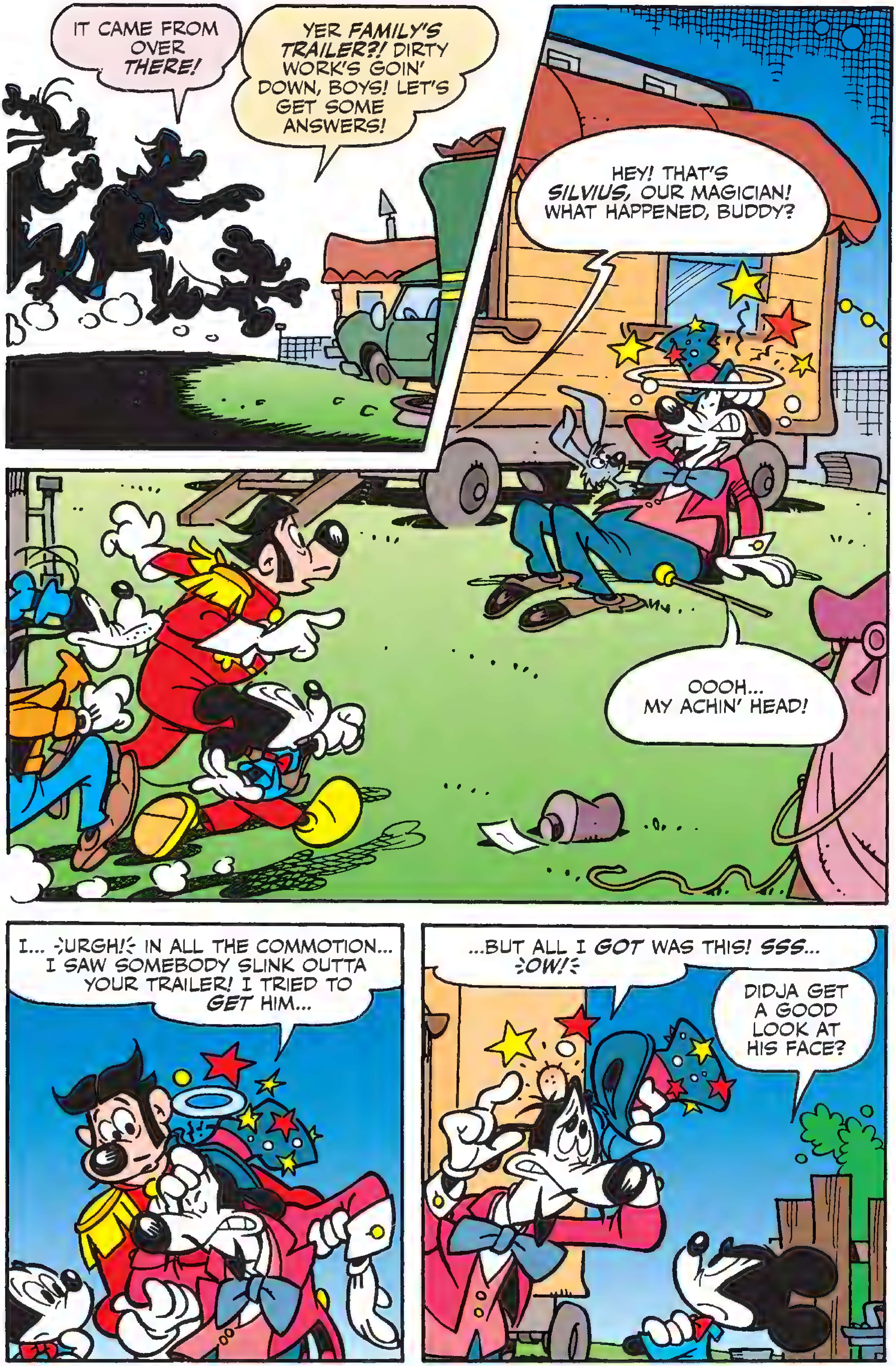

-SIGH!- *NOTHING!* JUST SOME STAGE COSTUMES AND A GOOFY-LOOKIN' HAT!
HOLD IT, MICK! THERE'S SUMP'N *SHINY* STUCK TO THUH *BOTTOM!*
I'LL GIVE IT A YANK! MEBBE WE'LL BE *SWIMMIN'* IN PENDANTS!
AW, FLUMMADIDDLES! ALL I *EVER* GIT TA SWIM IN ARE *JACKET BUTTONS.*
THAT'S NO BUTTON! IT'S SOME KIND OF A *PULL-STRING...*
CLICK
...AND GET A LOAD O' *THAT*–IT OPENS UP A *SECRET COMPARTMENT!*
SLIDE
BOYS, THIS TRUNK'S GOT A *FALSE BOTTOM!*
LOOK! THERE'S A *BOOK* INSIDE!

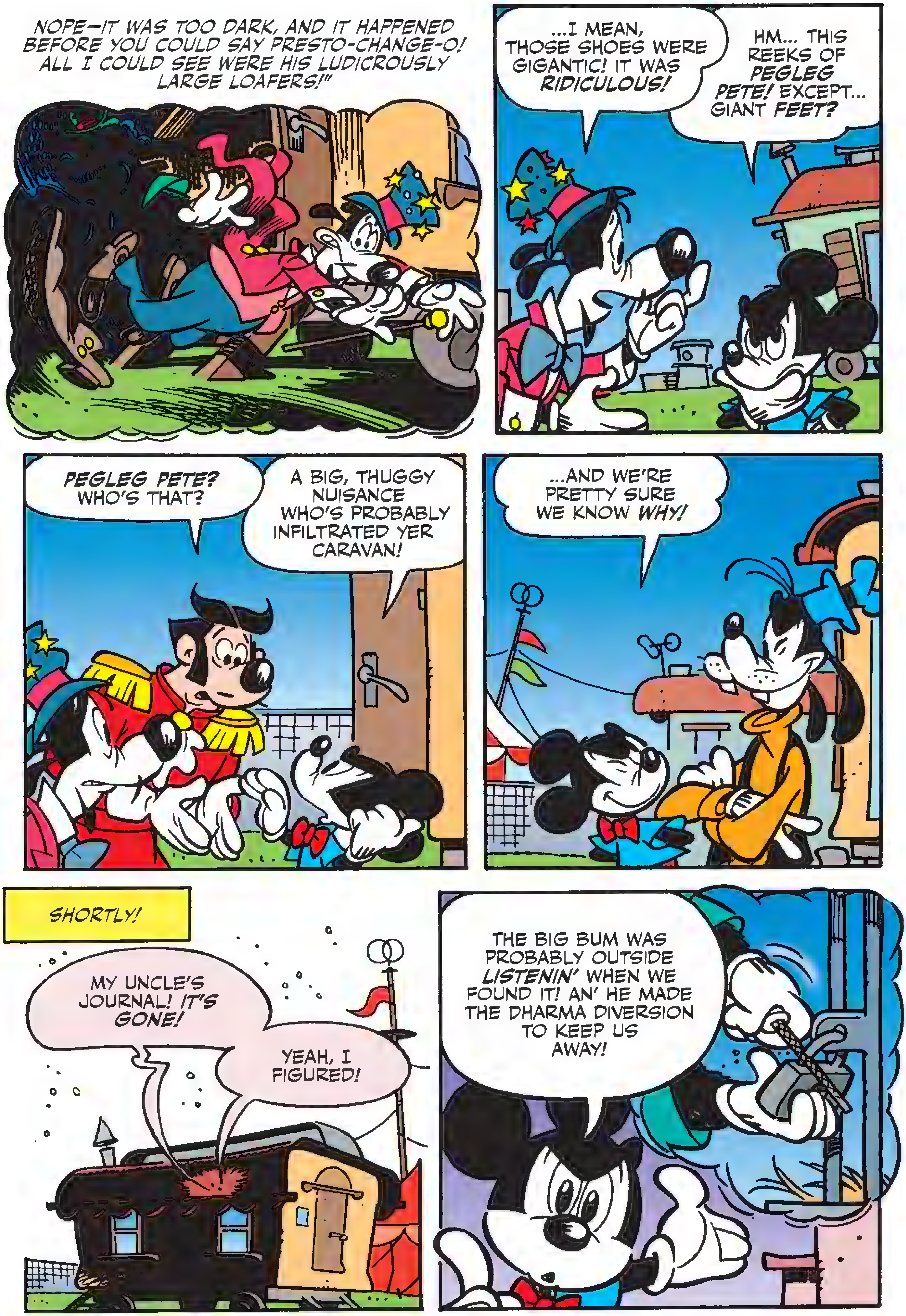

JACKPOT! WE JUST SNAGGED THE LONG-LOST JOURNAL OF MAGNUS HERCULES!
GRRR! THAT @#$% RAT ALWAYS GETS A LUCKY BREAK! I GOTTA READ DAT DIARY BEFORE HE DOES!
CIRCUS
AN' I KNOW JUST HOW TO MAKE DAT HAPPEN... HAW! HAW!
DHARMA

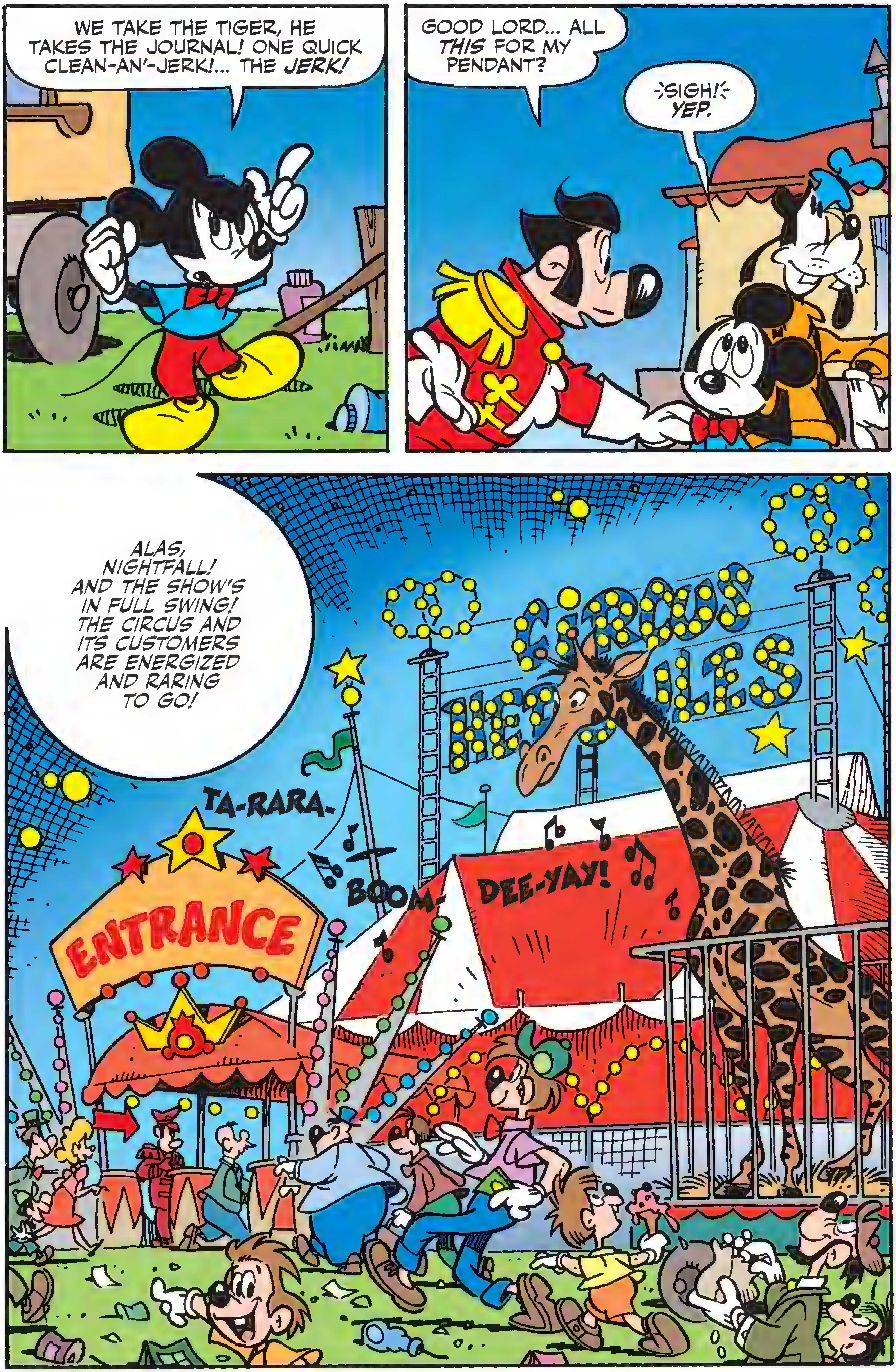

OBOY! THIS ENTRY'S ALL ABOUT HOW HE *PREPPED* HIS ELEPHANT ACTS!
I'M NOT SURPRISED!
UNCLE ALWAYS WAS *METICULOUS!* HE DEMANDED NOTHING BUT *EXTRAORDINARY* PERFORMANCES!
LISTEN TO THIS: "*TODAY A BEAUTIFUL PACHYDERM WAS BORN. I'VE NAMED HER ELLIE AND...*"
HEELP!!!
!
DHARMA'S ESCAPED!!!
ROOAR!!!
ZATT
LOTHAR! GET LOTHAR!!!

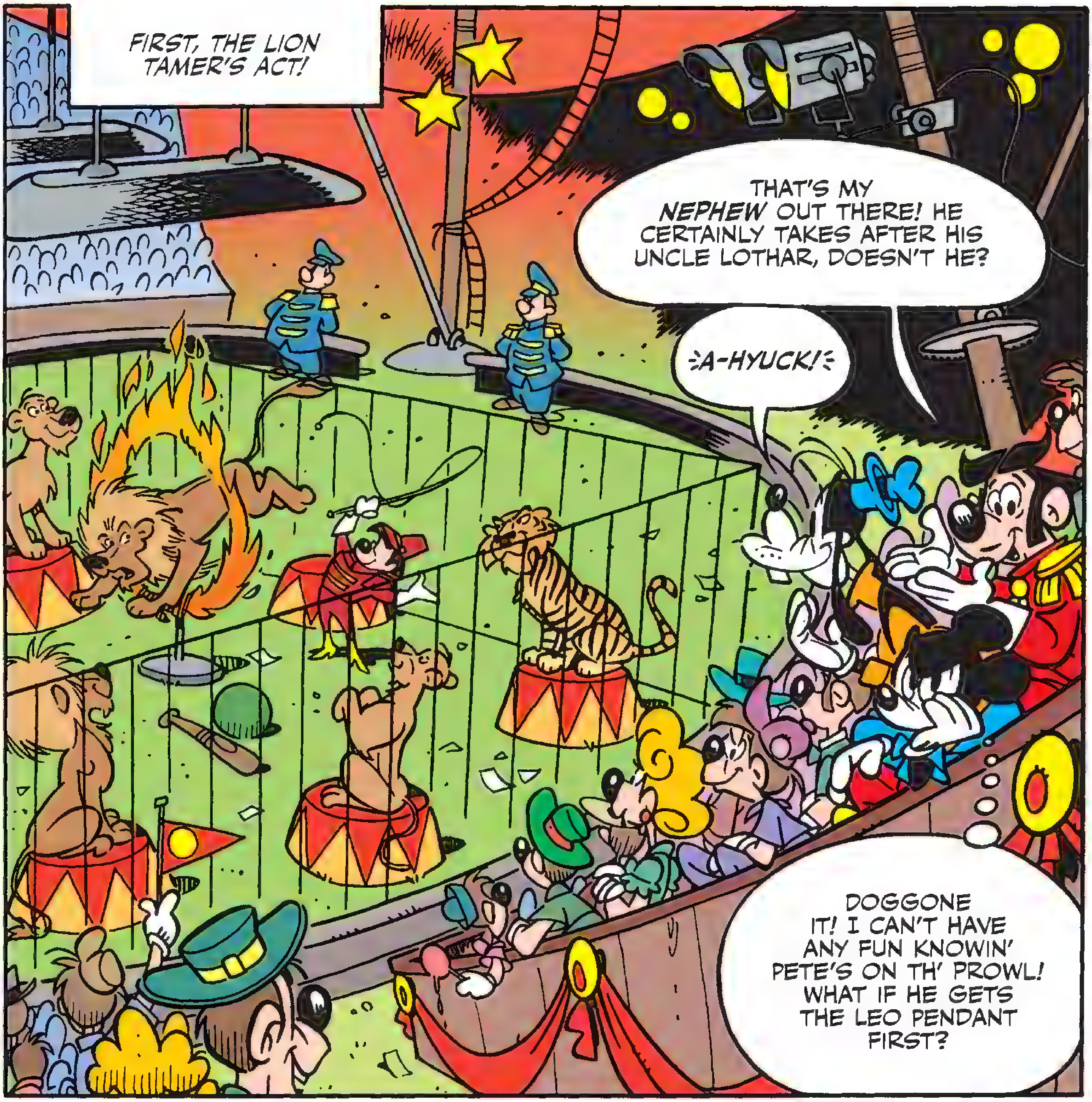

THAT'S *IMPOSSIBLE!* HOW DID DHARMA GET OUT OF HER CAGE?! I *CLOSED* IT *PERSONALLY!*
GRRR...
GOOD GIRL. CALM DOWN... MICKEY, GOOFY, GET BACK! DHARMA SEEMS UNUSUALLY *NERVOUS!*
CRACK!
TH-THAT'S NERVOUS?!
IT'S OKAY, DHARMA. IT'S LOTHAR. I'M YOUR FRIEND. I'M *HERE,* SEE...
GROWL...
THEEERRRE YOU GO. THAT'S MY PUSSYCAT.
PAT PAT PAT

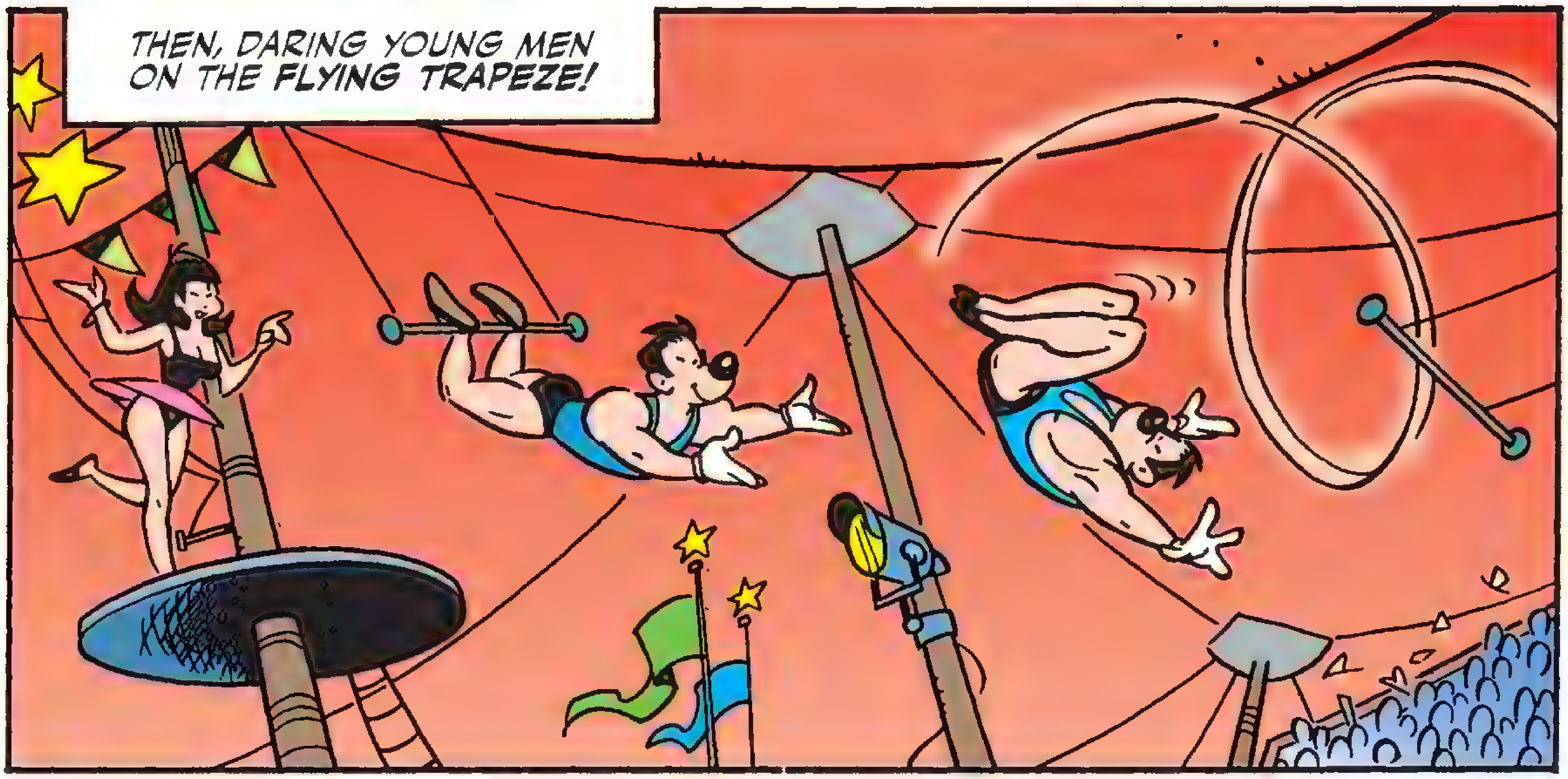

IT'S ALL RIGHT NOW, FRIENDS! DHARMA MAY AS WELL BE A HARMLESS KITTY!
YAWN...
IF SHE'S A "KITTY," THEN I'LL KEEP BEIN' CAUTIOUS!
THERE, GIRL! IN YOU GO!
NOW LET'S GET YOU– HEY! THIS LOCK'S BEEN CUT!
W-WHO COULD HAVE DONE THIS? WHY?!
ONE THING FER SURE... IT WAS DELIBERATE!
STO– UNGH!
?
WHAM!

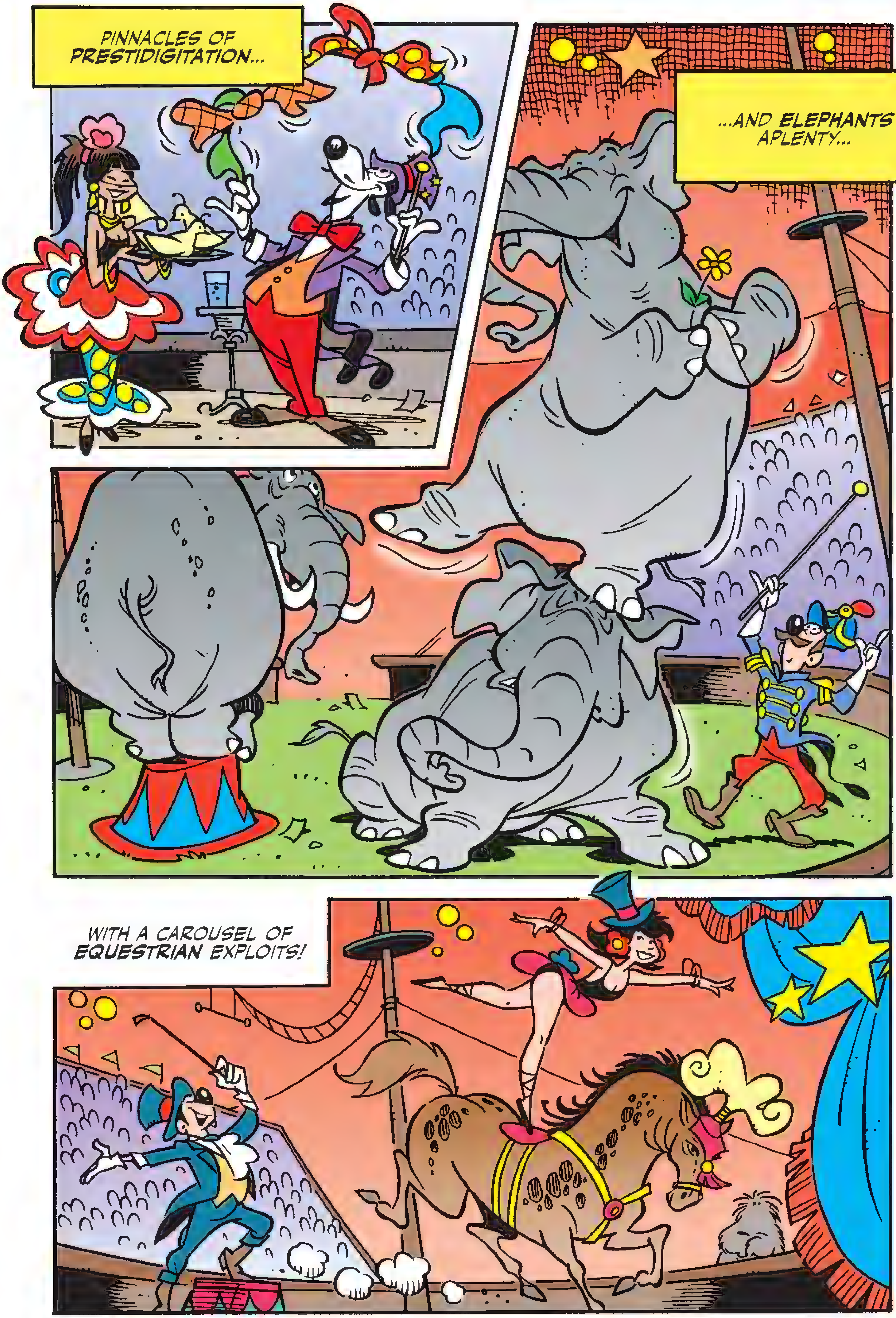

IT CAME FROM OVER *THERE!*
YER *FAMILY'S TRAILER?!* DIRTY WORK'S GOIN' DOWN, BOYS! LET'S GET SOME ANSWERS!
HEY! THAT'S *SILVIUS,* OUR MAGICIAN! WHAT HAPPENED, BUDDY?
OOOH... MY ACHIN' HEAD!
I... ⁏URGH!⁏ IN ALL THE COMMOTION... I SAW SOMEBODY SLINK OUTTA YOUR TRAILER! I TRIED TO *GET* HIM...
...BUT ALL I *GOT* WAS THIS! *SSS...* ⁏*OW!*⁏
DIDJA GET A GOOD LOOK AT HIS FACE?

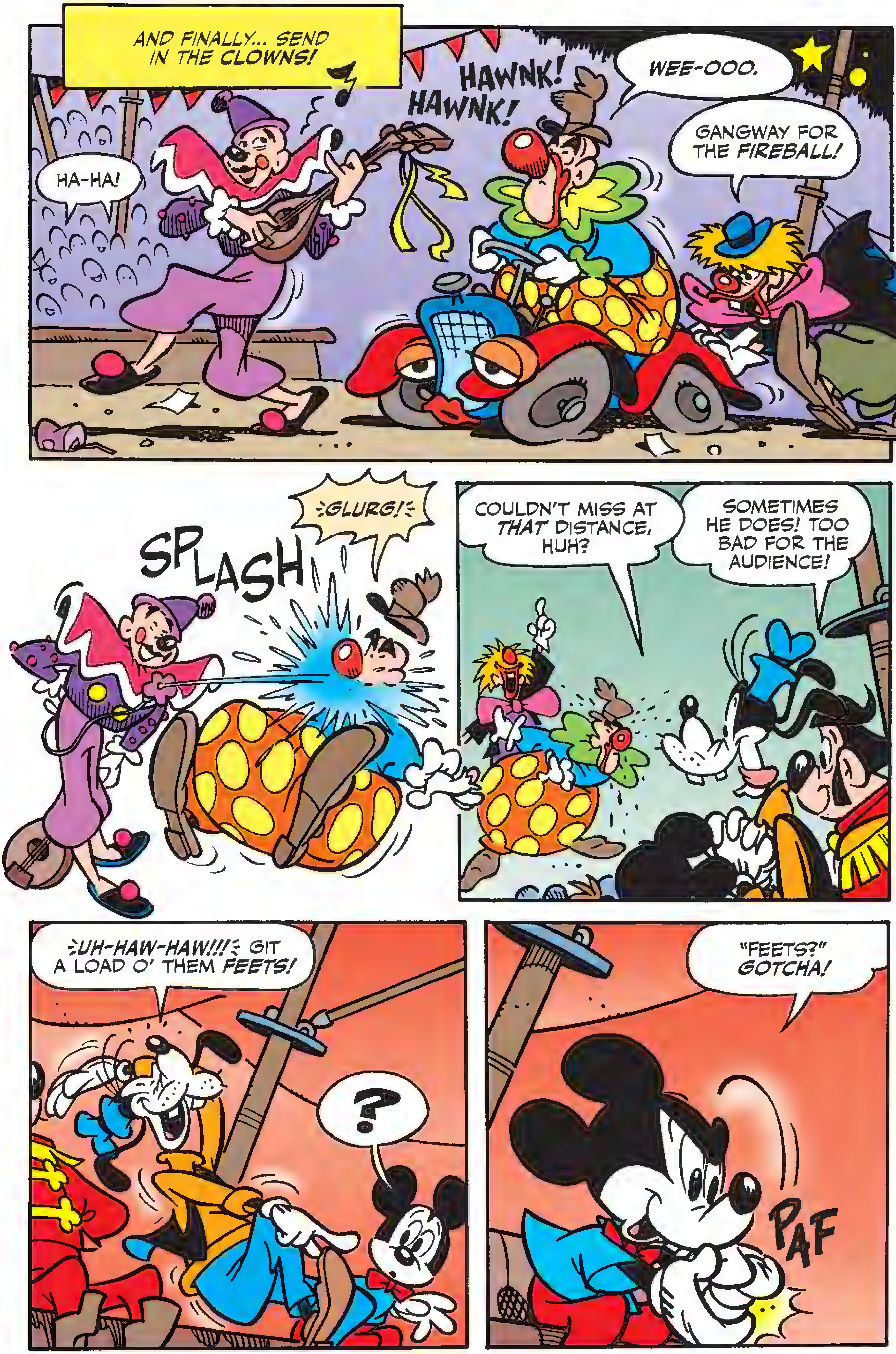

NOPE—IT WAS TOO DARK, AND IT HAPPENED BEFORE YOU COULD SAY PRESTO-CHANGE-O! ALL I COULD SEE WERE HIS LUDICROUSLY LARGE LOAFERS!"
...I MEAN, THOSE SHOES WERE GIGANTIC! IT WAS *RIDICULOUS!*
HM... THIS REEKS OF *PEGLEG PETE!* EXCEPT... GIANT *FEET?*
PEGLEG PETE? WHO'S THAT?
A BIG, THUGGY NUISANCE WHO'S PROBABLY INFILTRATED YER CARAVAN!
...AND WE'RE PRETTY SURE WE KNOW *WHY!*
SHORTLY!
MY UNCLE'S JOURNAL! *IT'S GONE!*
YEAH, I FIGURED!
THE BIG BUM WAS PROBABLY OUTSIDE *LISTENIN'* WHEN WE FOUND IT! AN' HE MADE THE DHARMA DIVERSION TO KEEP US AWAY!

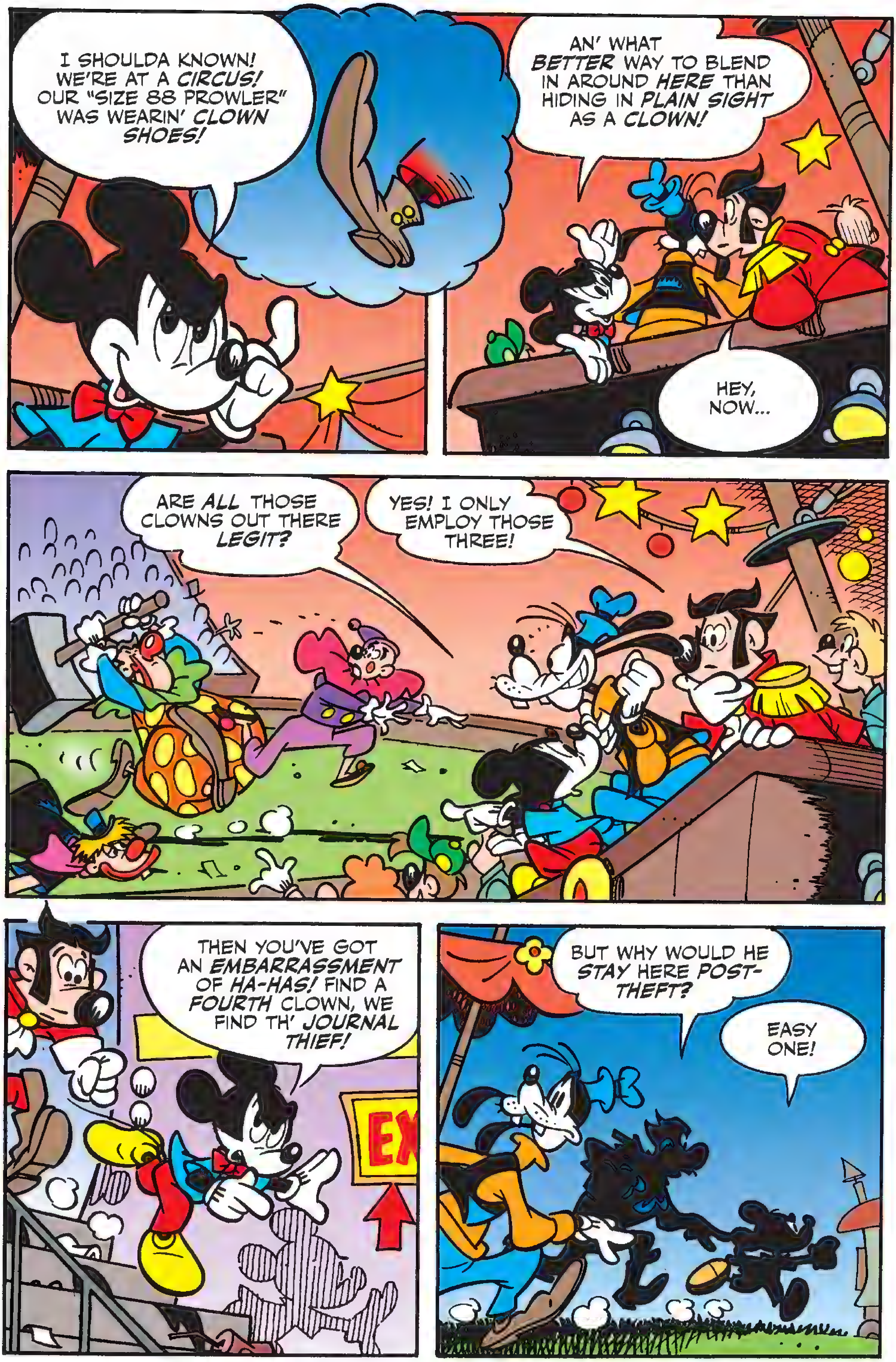

WE TAKE THE TIGER, HE TAKES THE JOURNAL! ONE QUICK CLEAN-AN'-JERK!... THE *JERK!*
GOOD LORD... ALL *THIS* FOR MY PENDANT?
-SIGH!- *YEP.*
ALAS, NIGHTFALL! AND THE SHOW'S IN FULL SWING! THE CIRCUS AND ITS CUSTOMERS ARE ENERGIZED AND RARING TO GO!
CIRCUS
HE
ULES
ENTRANCE
TA-RARA-
BOOM-
DEE-YAY!

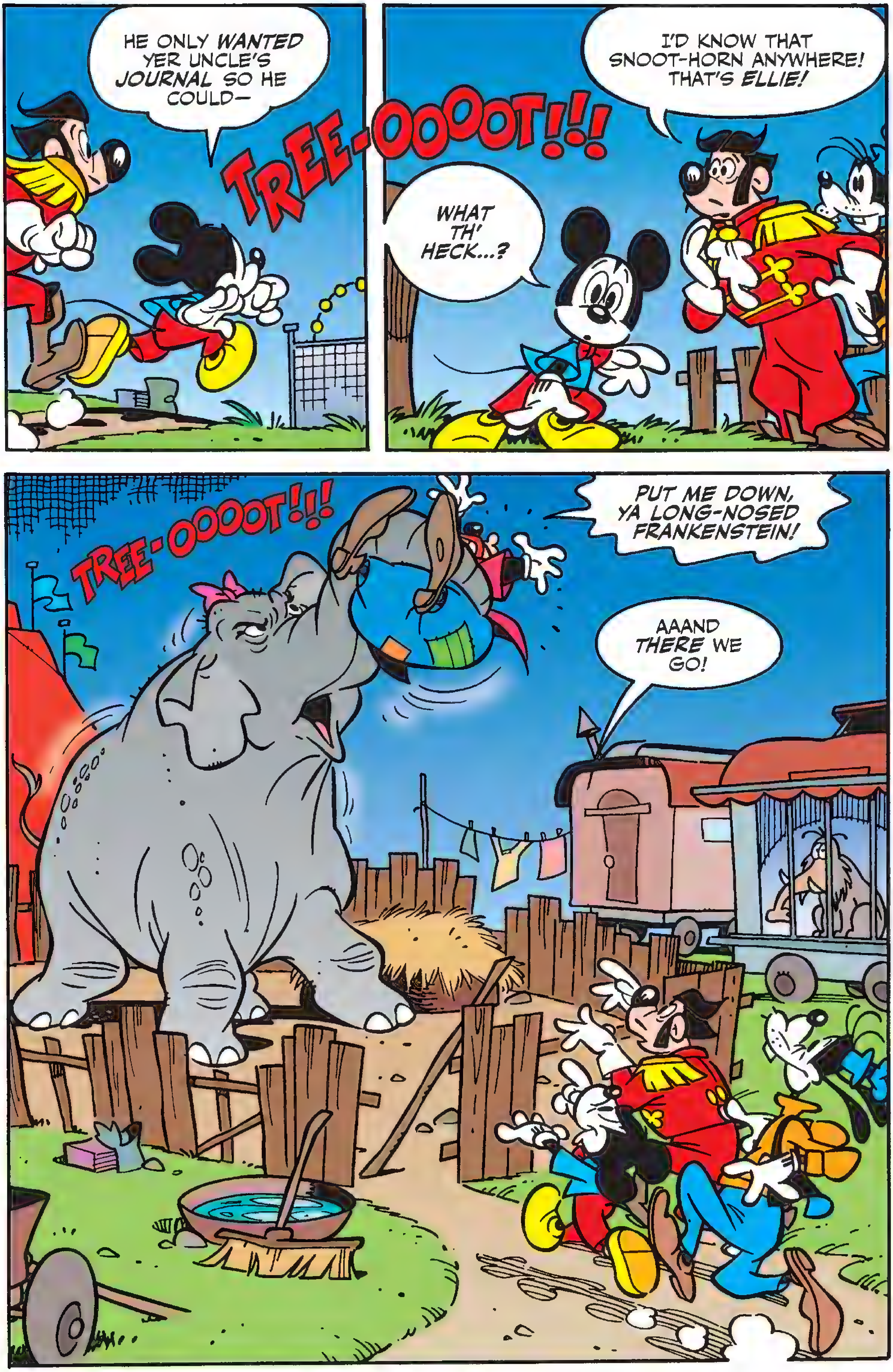

FIRST, THE LION TAMER'S ACT!
THAT'S MY *NEPHEW* OUT THERE! HE CERTAINLY TAKES AFTER HIS UNCLE LOTHAR, DOESN'T HE?
A-HYUCK!
DOGGONE IT! I CAN'T HAVE ANY FUN KNOWIN' PETE'S ON TH' PROWL! WHAT IF HE GETS THE LEO PENDANT FIRST?

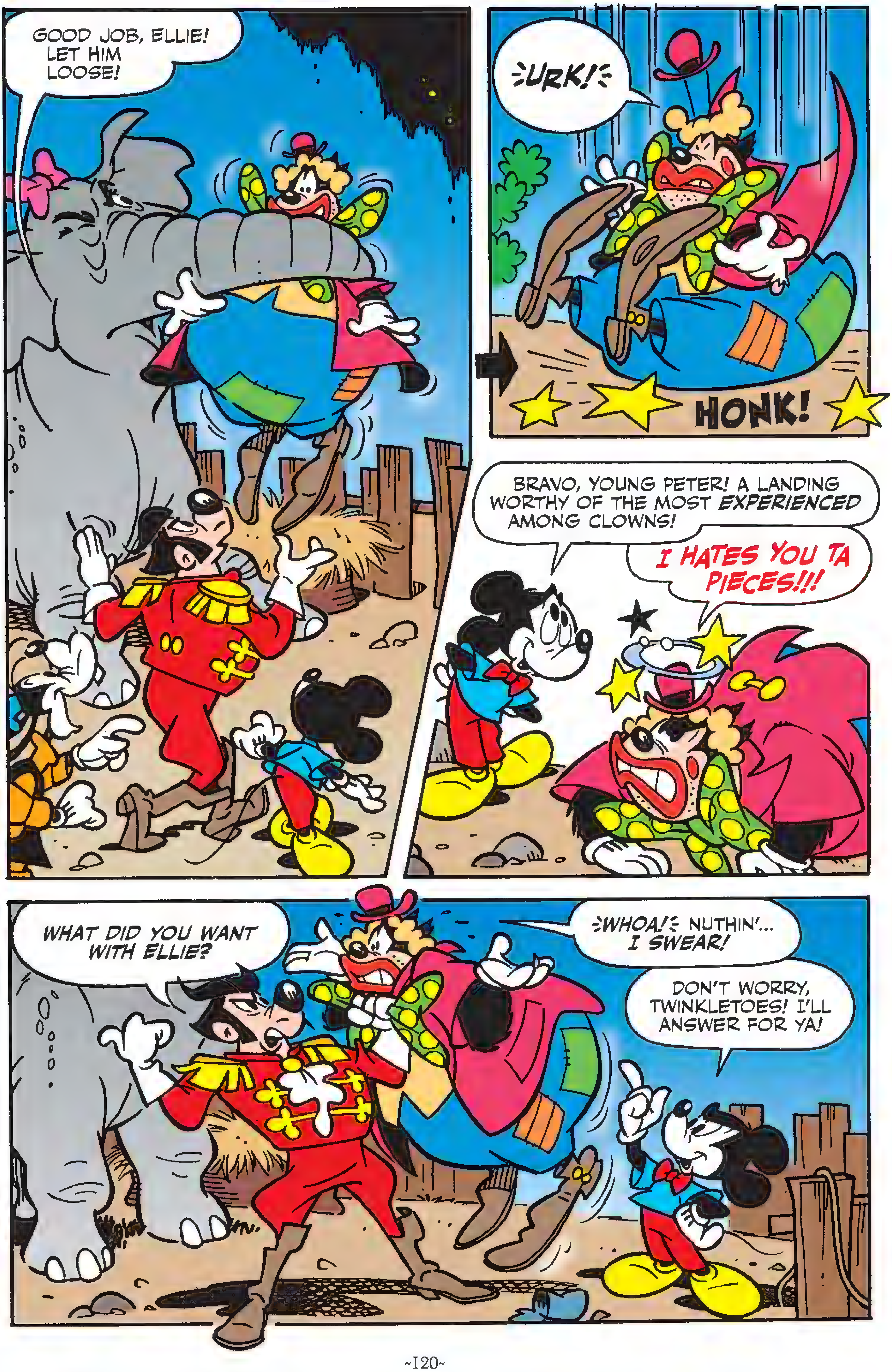

THEN, DARING YOUNG MEN ON THE *FLYING TRAPEZE!*

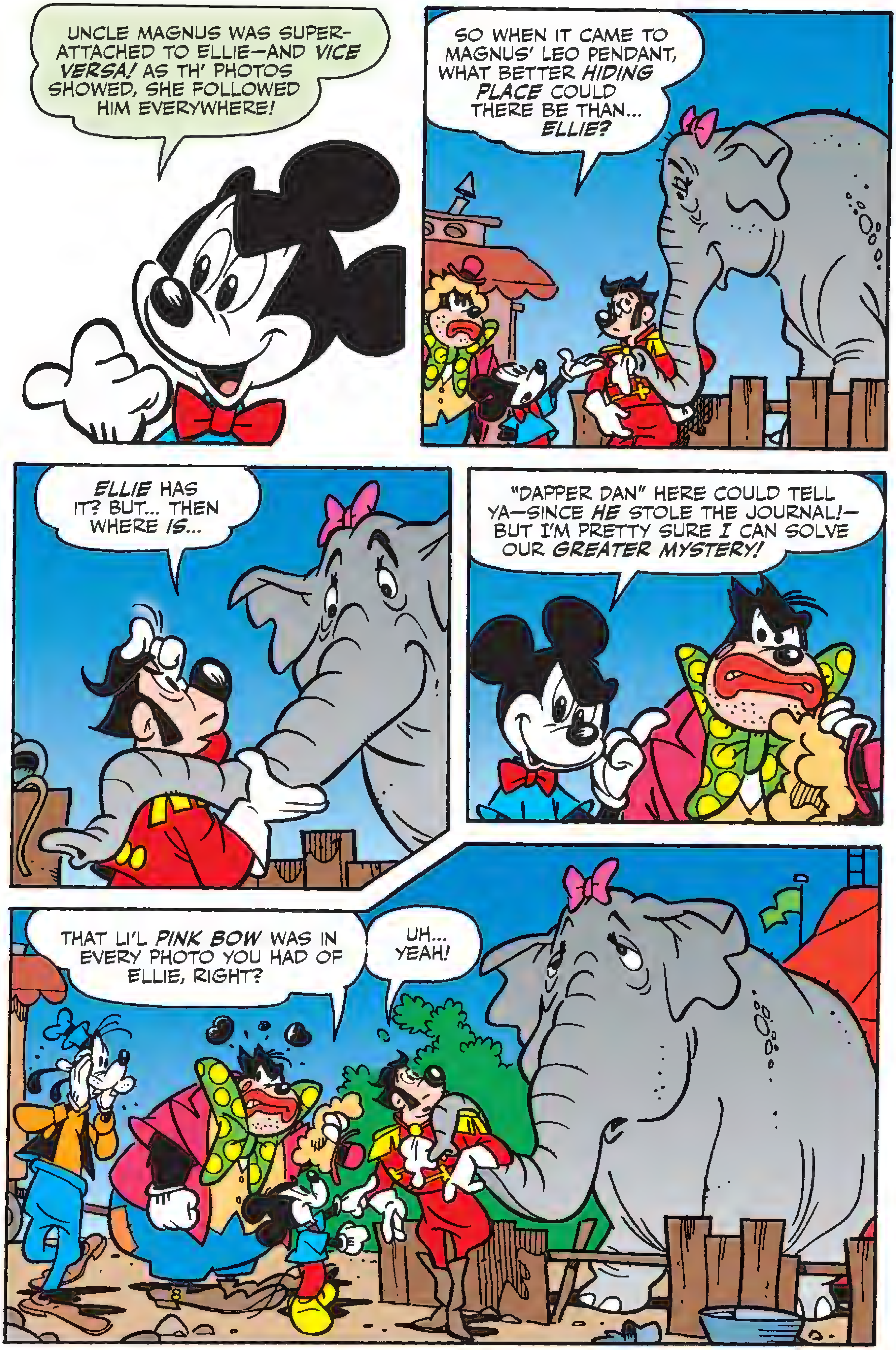

PINNACLES OF PRESTIDIGITATION...
...AND ELEPHANTS APLENTY...
WITH A CAROUSEL OF EQUESTRIAN EXPLOITS!

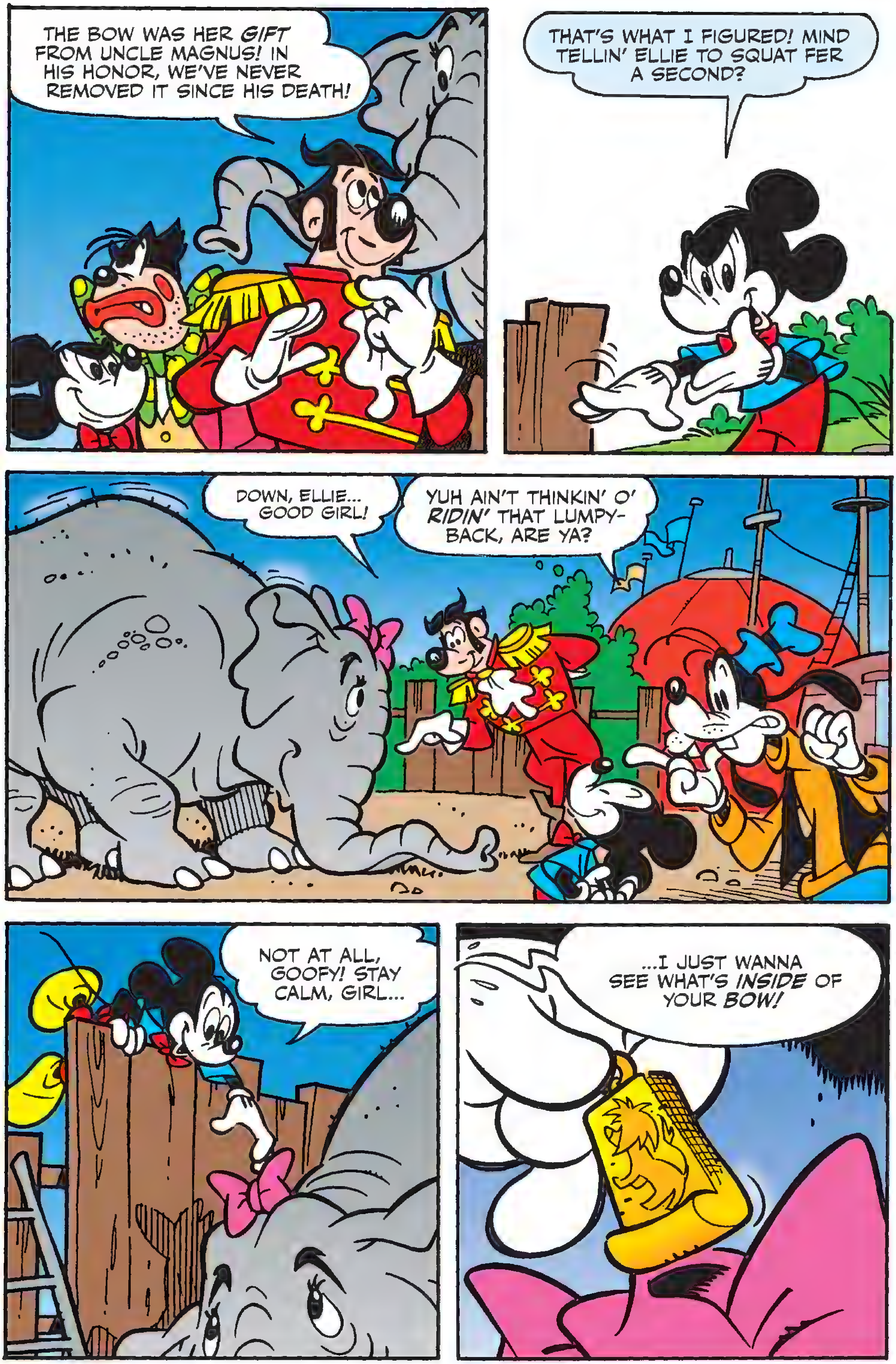

AND FINALLY... SEND IN THE CLOWNS!
HA-HA!
HAWNK! HAWNK!
WEE-OOO.
GANGWAY FOR THE *FIREBALL!*
SPLASH
GLURG!
COULDN'T MISS AT *THAT* DISTANCE, HUH?
SOMETIMES HE DOES! TOO BAD FOR THE AUDIENCE!
UH-HAW-HAW!!! GIT A LOAD O' THEM *FEETS!*
?
"FEETS?" *GOTCHA!*
PAF

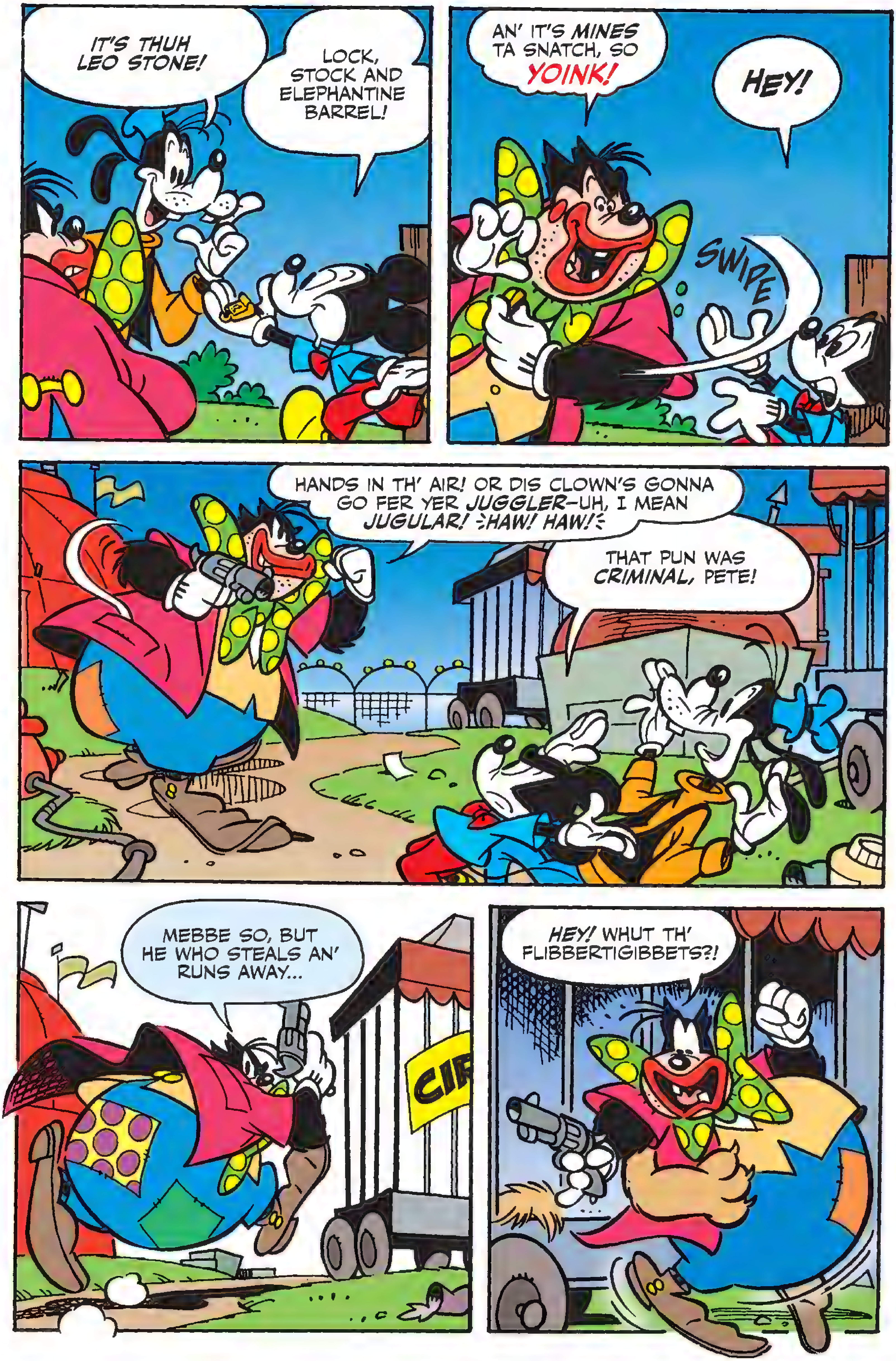

I SHOULDA KNOWN! WE'RE AT A *CIRCUS!* OUR "SIZE 88 PROWLER" WAS WEARIN' *CLOWN SHOES!*
AN' WHAT *BETTER* WAY TO BLEND IN AROUND *HERE* THAN HIDING IN *PLAIN SIGHT* AS A *CLOWN!*
HEY, NOW...
ARE *ALL* THOSE CLOWNS OUT THERE *LEGIT?*
YES! I ONLY EMPLOY THOSE THREE!
THEN YOU'VE GOT AN *EMBARRASSMENT* OF *HA-HAS!* FIND A *FOURTH* CLOWN, WE FIND TH' *JOURNAL THIEF!*
EX
BUT WHY WOULD HE *STAY* HERE *POST-THEFT?*
EASY ONE!

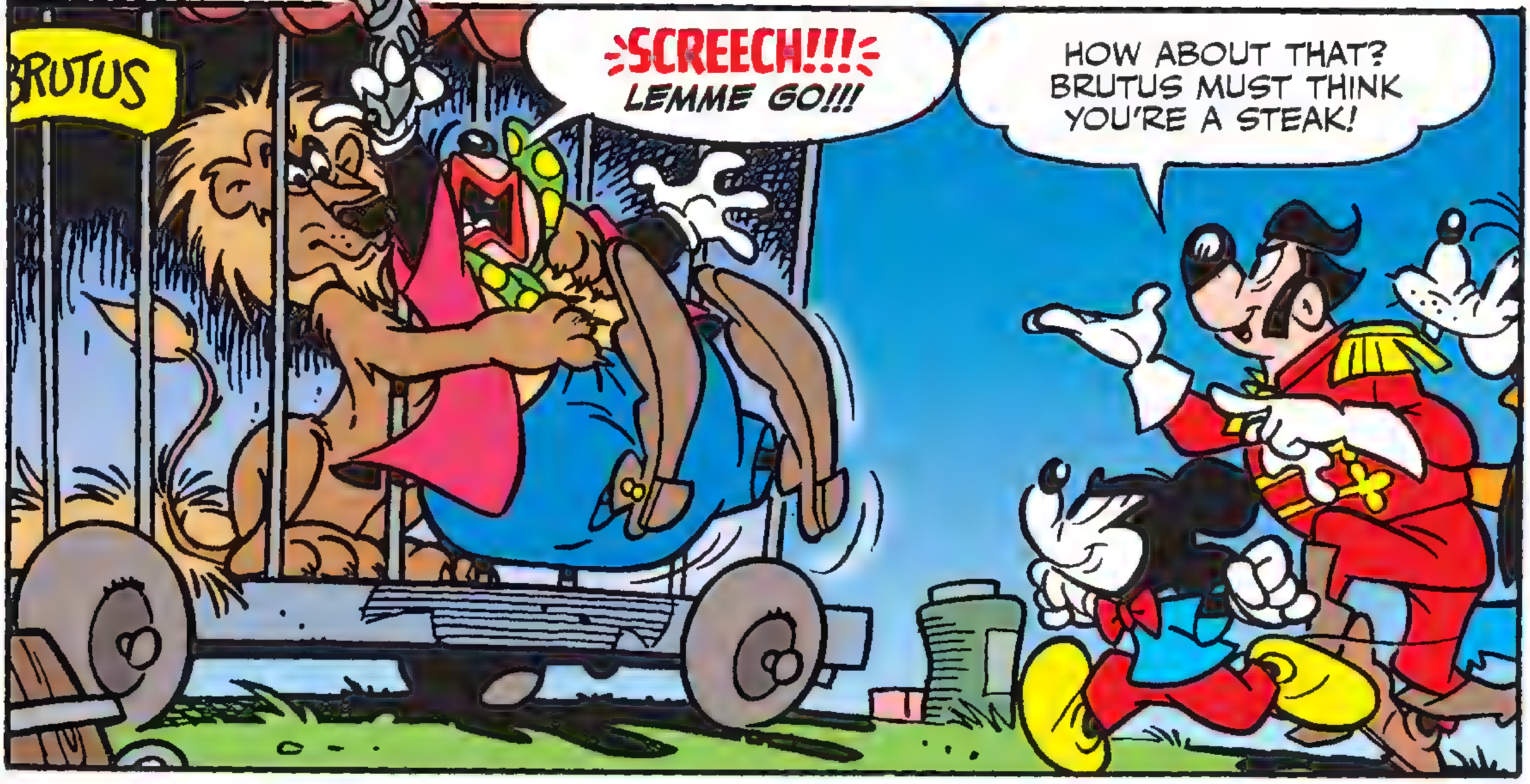

HE ONLY *WANTED* YER UNCLE'S *JOURNAL* SO HE COULD—
TREE-OOOOT!!!
I'D KNOW THAT SNOOT-HORN ANYWHERE! THAT'S *ELLIE!*
WHAT TH' HECK...?
TREE-OOOOT!!!
PUT ME DOWN, YA LONG-NOSED FRANKENSTEIN!
AAAND *THERE* WE GO!

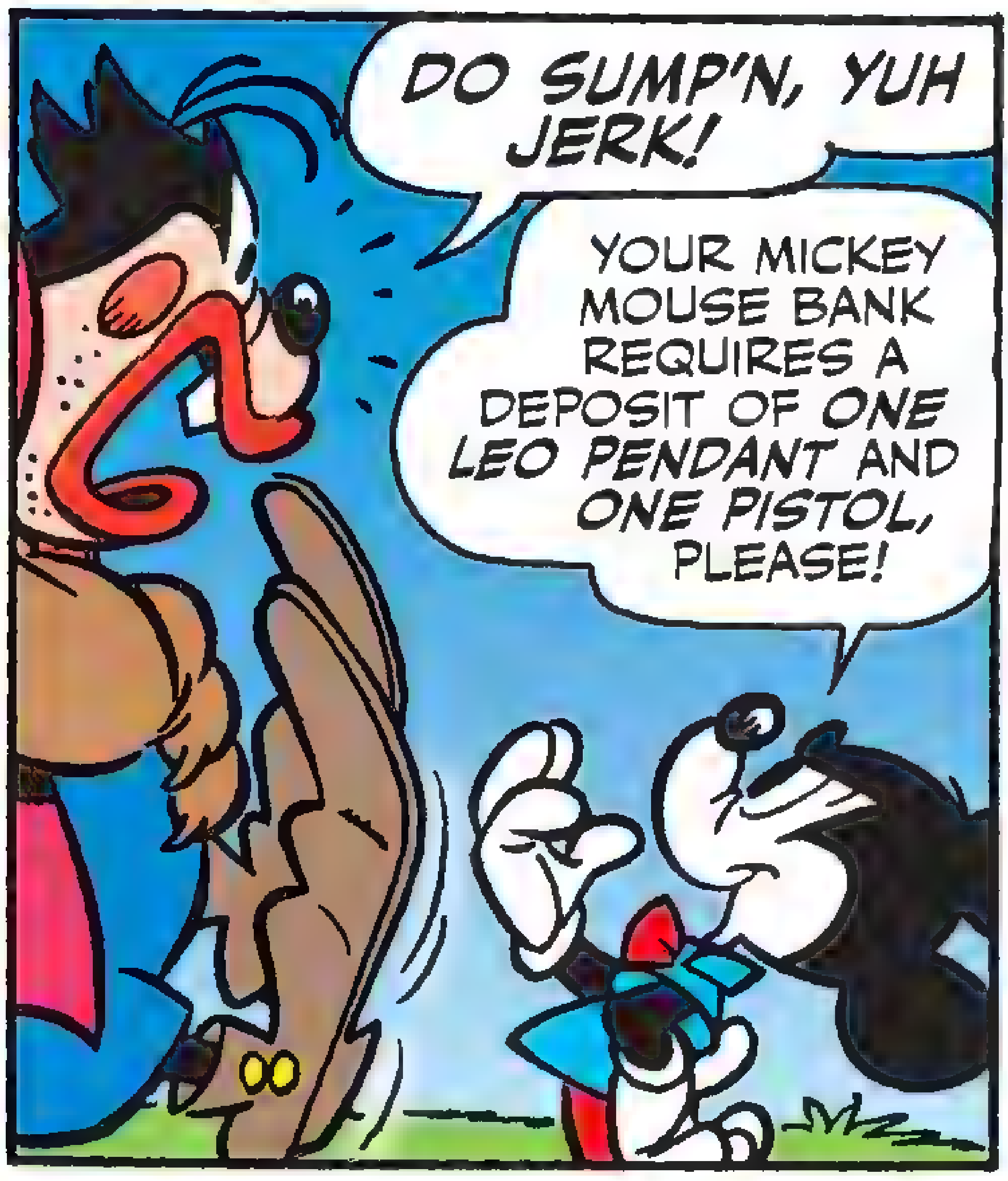

GOOD JOB, ELLIE! LET HIM LOOSE!
URK!
HONK!
BRAVO, YOUNG PETER! A LANDING WORTHY OF THE MOST *EXPERIENCED* AMONG CLOWNS!
I HATES YOU TA PIECES!!!
WHAT DID YOU WANT WITH ELLIE?
WHOA! NUTHIN'... I SWEAR!
DON'T WORRY, TWINKLETOES! I'LL ANSWER FOR YA!

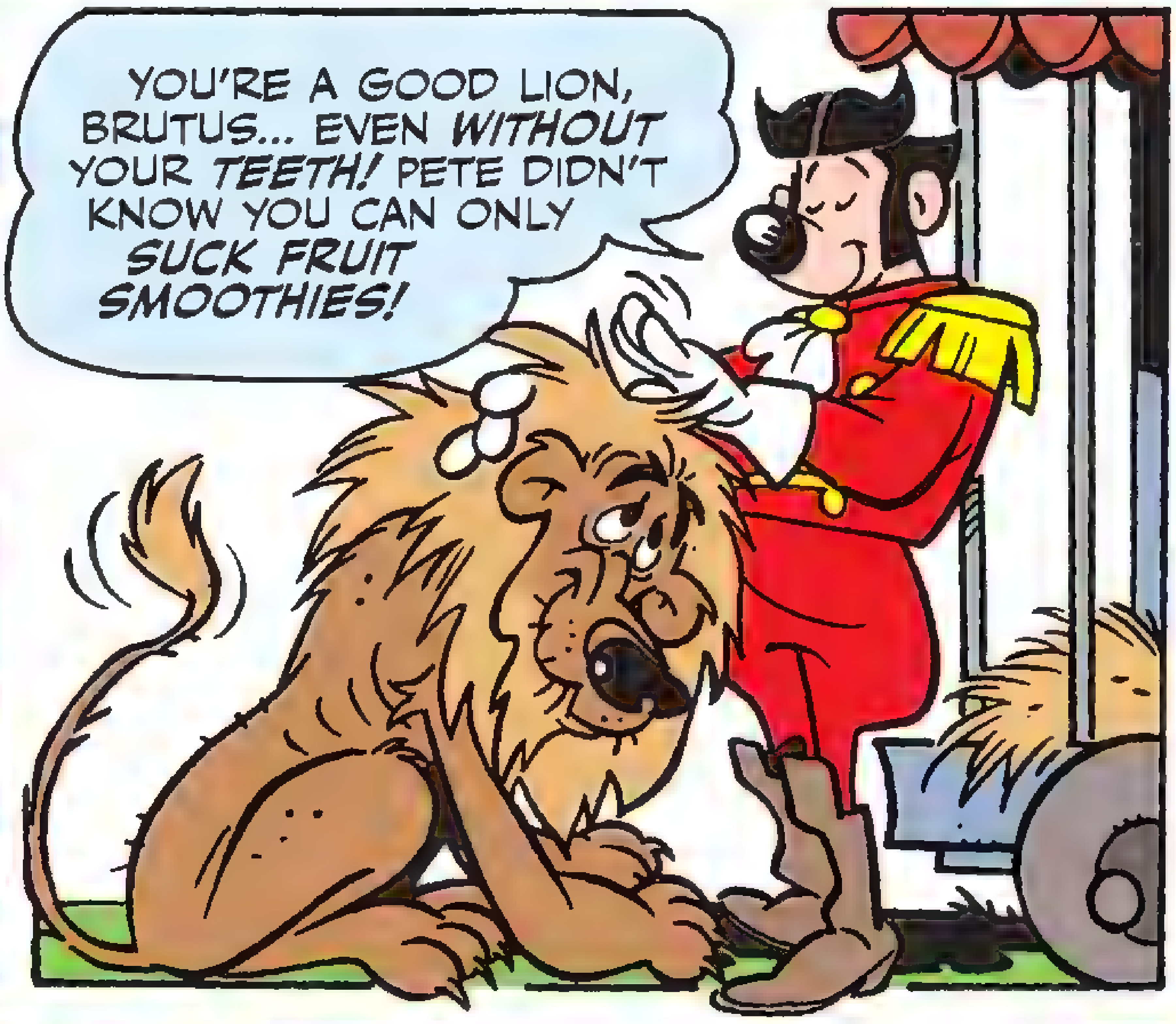

UNCLE MAGNUS WAS SUPER-ATTACHED TO ELLIE—AND *VICE VERSA!* AS TH' PHOTOS SHOWED, SHE FOLLOWED HIM EVERYWHERE!
SO WHEN IT CAME TO MAGNUS' LEO PENDANT, WHAT BETTER *HIDING PLACE* COULD THERE BE THAN... *ELLIE?*
ELLIE HAS IT? BUT... THEN WHERE *IS*...
"DAPPER DAN" HERE COULD TELL YA—SINCE *HE* STOLE THE JOURNAL!—BUT I'M PRETTY SURE *I* CAN SOLVE OUR *GREATER MYSTERY!*
THAT LI'L *PINK BOW* WAS IN EVERY PHOTO YOU HAD OF ELLIE, RIGHT?
UH... YEAH!

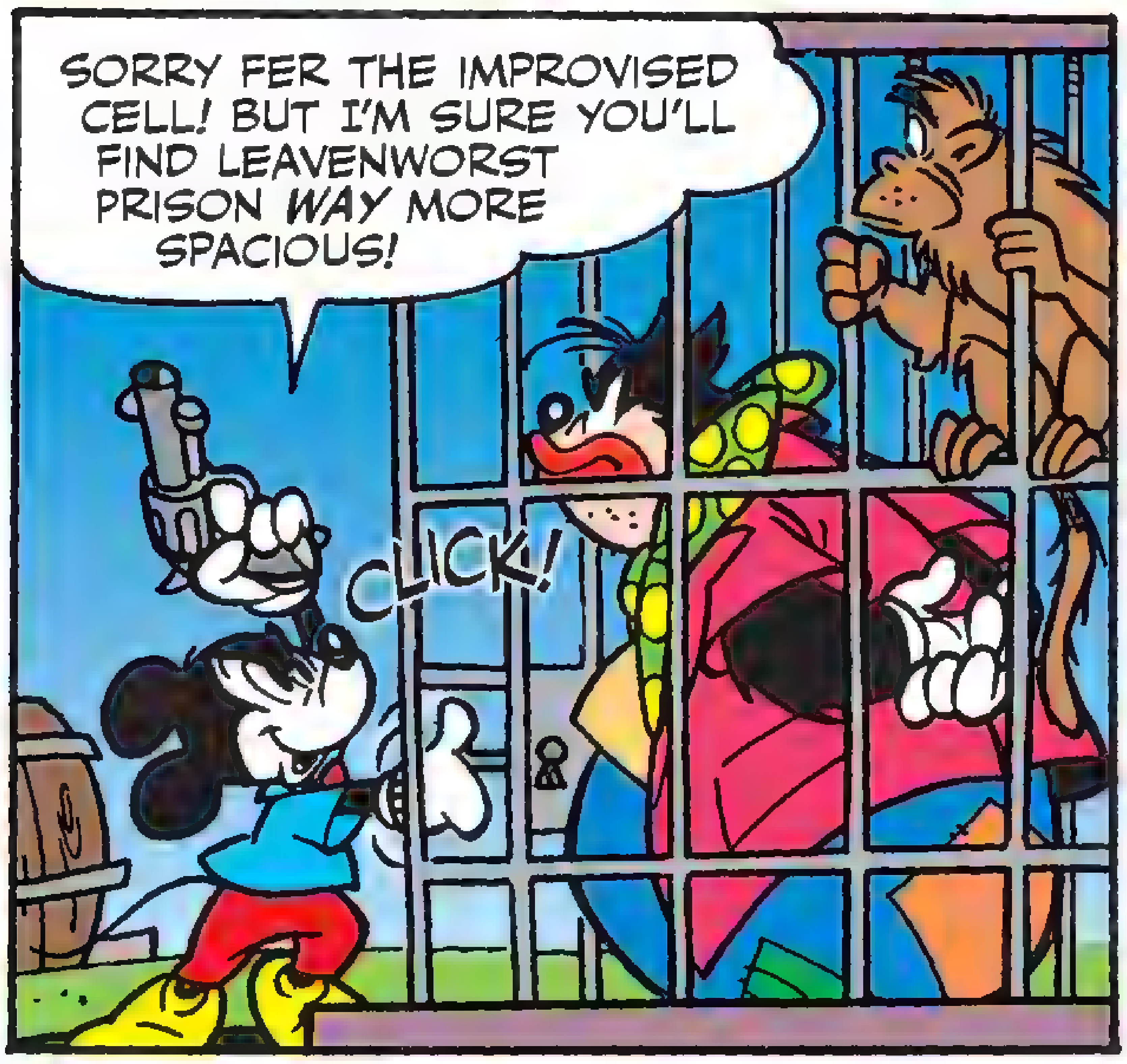

THE BOW WAS HER *GIFT* FROM UNCLE MAGNUS! IN HIS HONOR, WE'VE NEVER REMOVED IT SINCE HIS DEATH!
THAT'S WHAT I FIGURED! MIND TELLIN' ELLIE TO SQUAT FER A SECOND?
DOWN, ELLIE... GOOD GIRL!
YUH AIN'T THINKIN' O' *RIDIN'* THAT LUMPY-BACK, ARE YA?
NOT AT ALL, GOOFY! STAY CALM, GIRL...
...I JUST WANNA SEE WHAT'S *INSIDE* OF YOUR *BOW!*

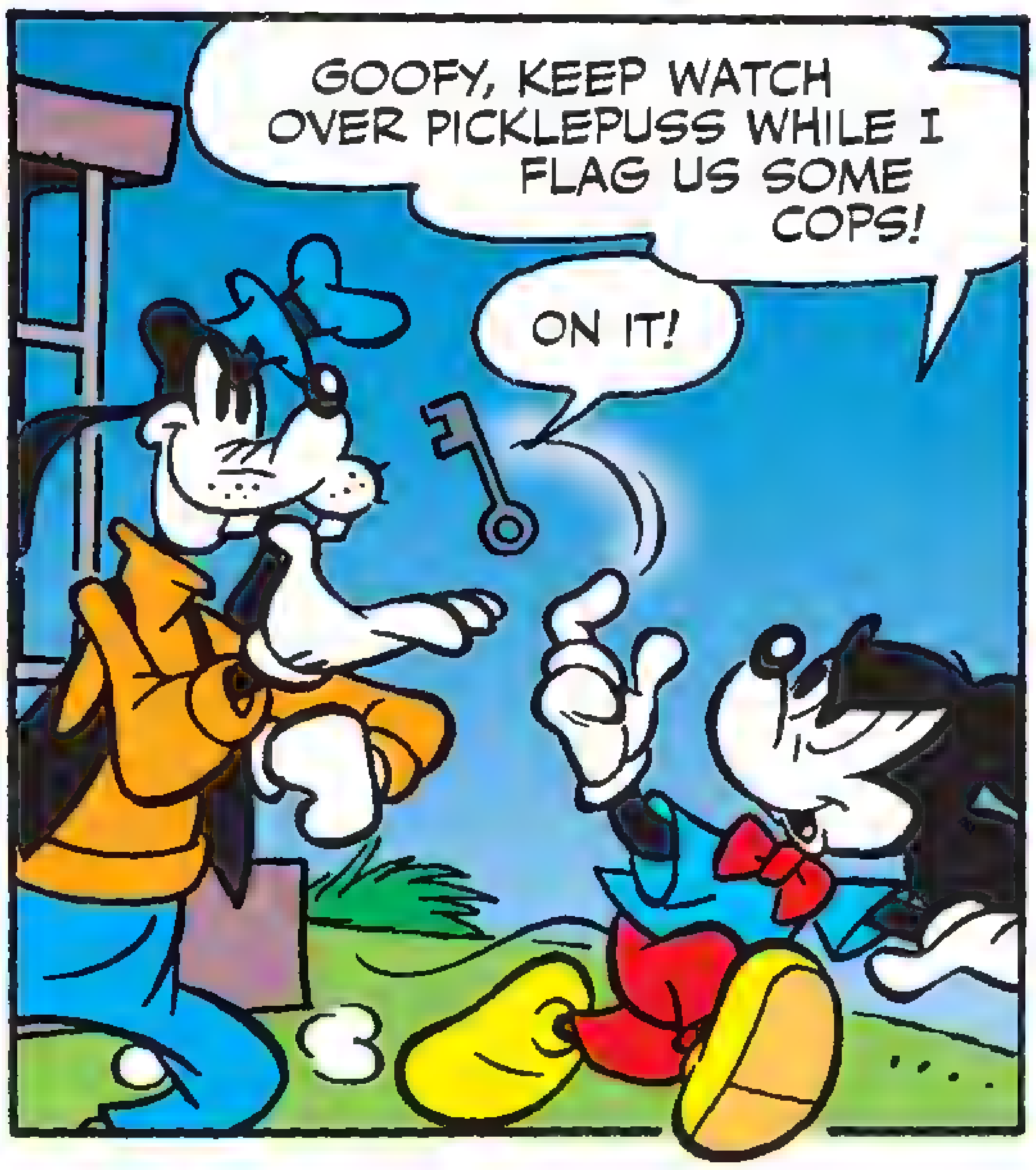

IT'S THUH LEO STONE!
LOCK, STOCK AND ELEPHANTINE BARREL!
AN' IT'S *MINES* TA SNATCH, SO *YOINK!*
HEY!
SWIPE
HANDS IN TH' AIR! OR DIS CLOWN'S GONNA GO FER YER *JUGGLER*—UH, I MEAN *JUGULAR! HAW! HAW!*
THAT PUN WAS *CRIMINAL*, PETE!
MEBBE SO, BUT HE WHO STEALS AN' RUNS AWAY...
CIR
HEY! WHUT TH' FLIBBERTIGIBBETS?!

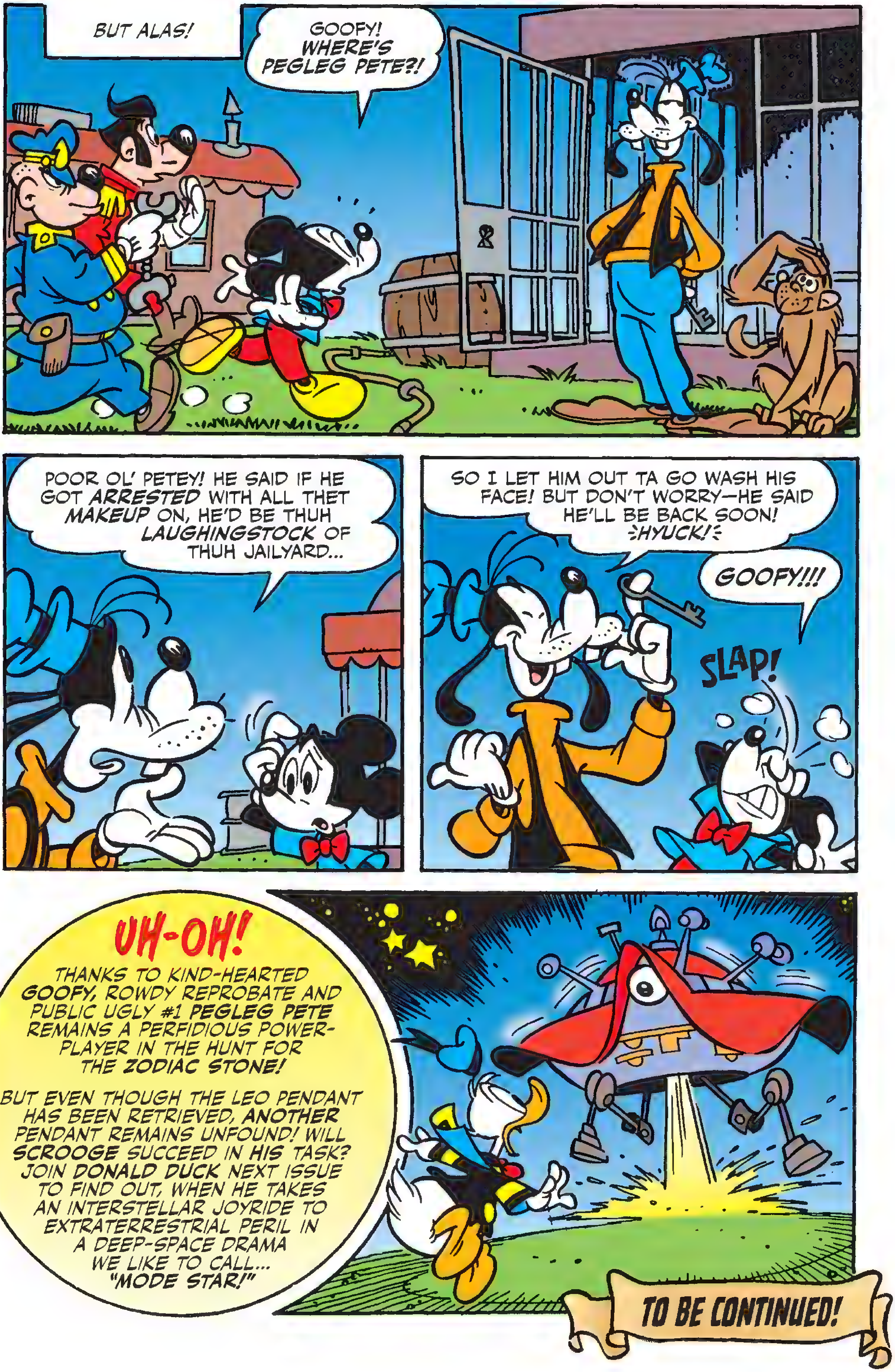

BRUTUS
SCREECH!!! LEMME GO!!!
HOW ABOUT THAT? BRUTUS MUST THINK YOU'RE A STEAK!

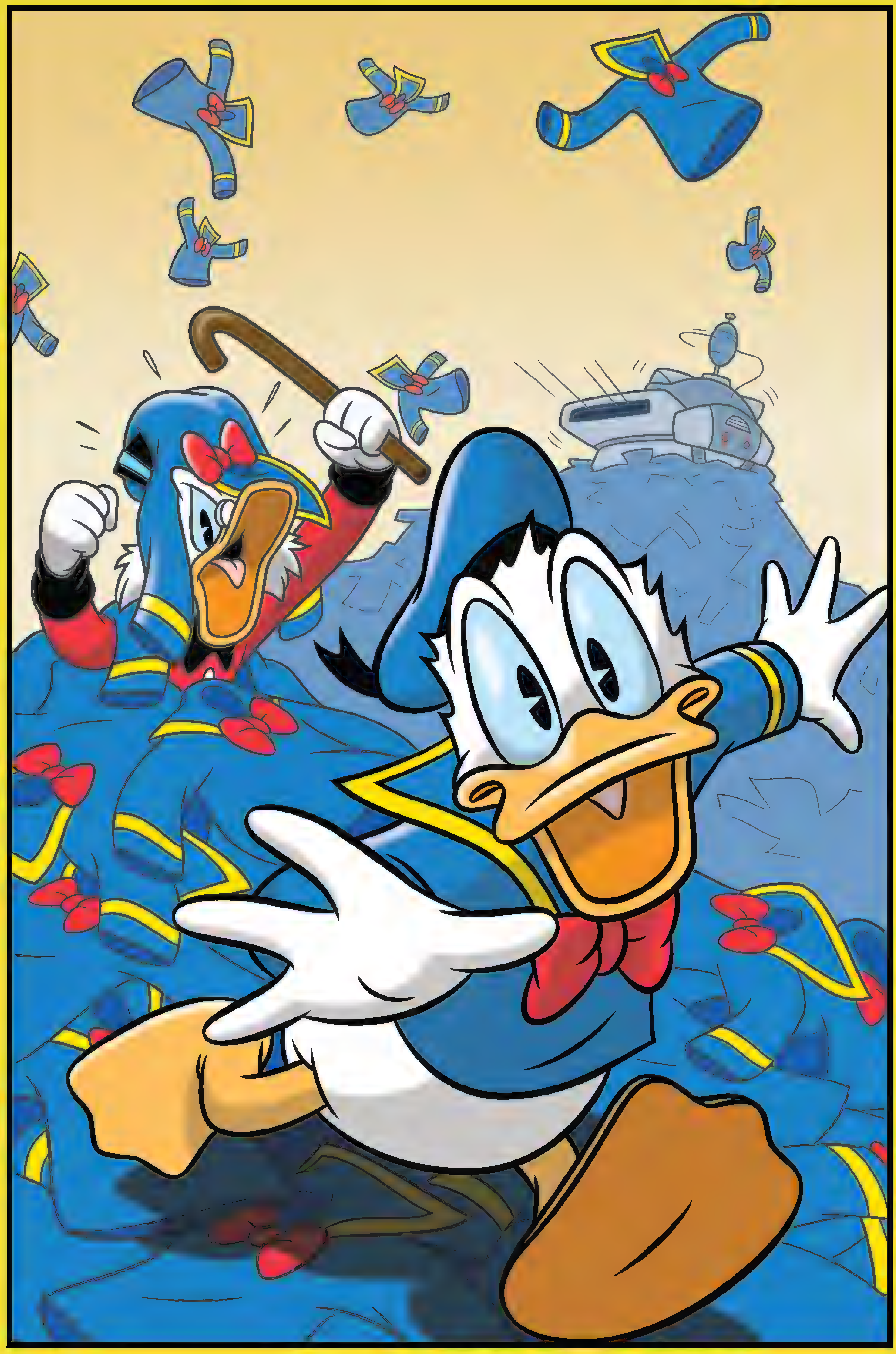

DO SUMP'N, YUH JERK!
YOUR MICKEY MOUSE BANK REQUIRES A DEPOSIT OF ONE LEO PENDANT AND ONE PISTOL, PLEASE!


YOU'RE A GOOD LION, BRUTUS... EVEN WITHOUT YOUR TEETH! PETE DIDN'T KNOW YOU CAN ONLY SUCK FRUIT SMOOTHIES!

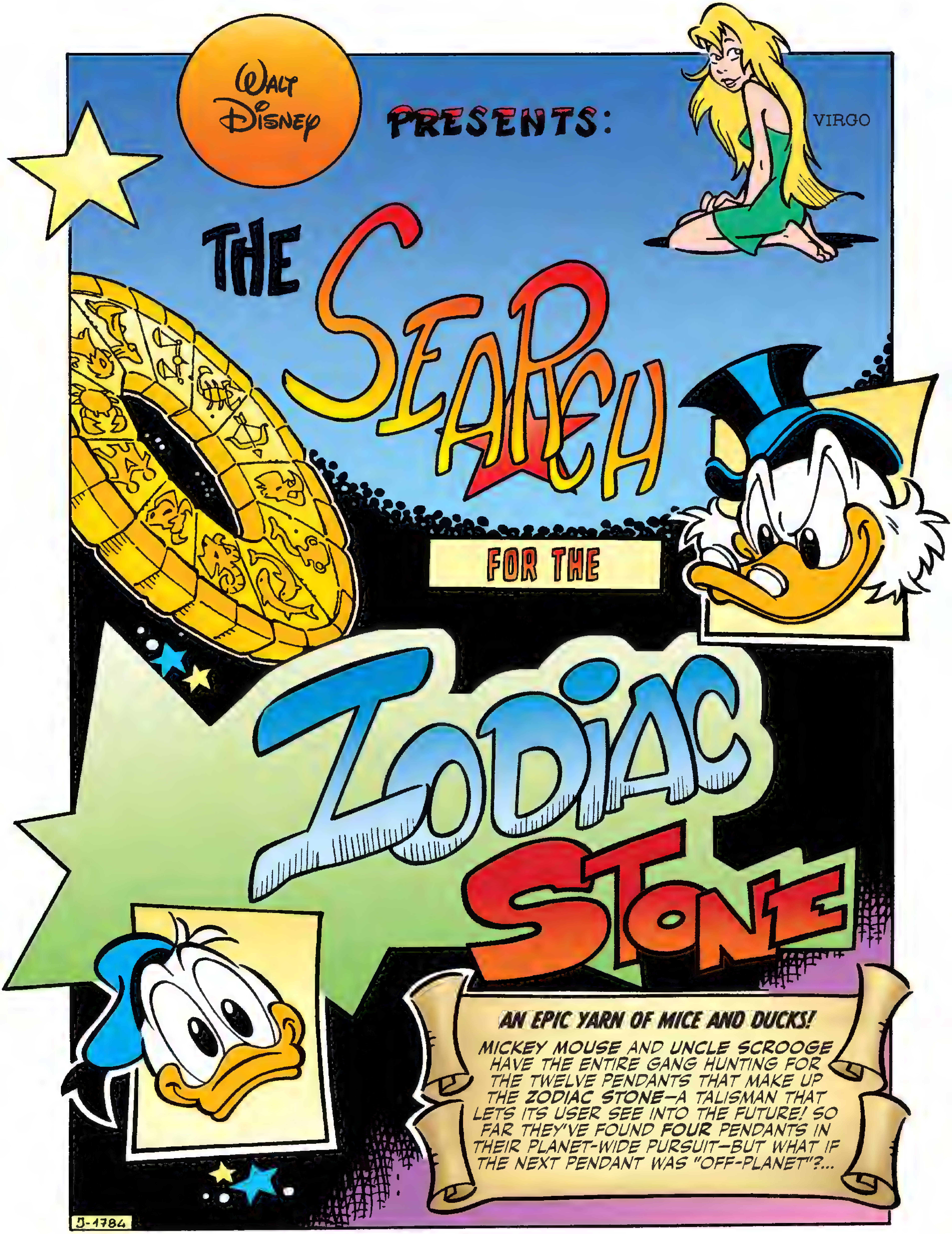

SORRY FER THE IMPROVISED CELL! BUT I'M SURE YOU'LL FIND LEAVENWORST PRISON WAY MORE SPACIOUS!
CLICK!


GOOFY, KEEP WATCH OVER PICKLEPUSS WHILE I FLAG US SOME COPS!
ON IT!


BUT ALAS!
GOOFY! WHERE'S PEGLEG PETE?!
POOR OL' PETEY! HE SAID IF HE GOT ARRESTED WITH ALL THET MAKEUP ON, HE'D BE THUH LAUGHINGSTOCK OF THUH JAILYARD...
SO I LET HIM OUT TA GO WASH HIS FACE! BUT DON'T WORRY—HE SAID HE'LL BE BACK SOON! HYUCK!
GOOFY!!!
SLAP!
UH-OH!
THANKS TO KIND-HEARTED GOOFY, ROWDY REPROBATE AND PUBLIC UGLY #1 PEGLEG PETE REMAINS A PERFIDIOUS POWER-PLAYER IN THE HUNT FOR THE ZODIAC STONE!
BUT EVEN THOUGH THE LEO PENDANT HAS BEEN RETRIEVED, ANOTHER PENDANT REMAINS UNFOUND! WILL SCROOGE SUCCEED IN HIS TASK? JOIN DONALD DUCK NEXT ISSUE TO FIND OUT, WHEN HE TAKES AN INTERSTELLAR JOYRIDE TO EXTRATERRESTRIAL PERIL IN A DEEP-SPACE DRAMA WE LIKE TO CALL... "MODE STAR!"
TO BE CONTINUED!



Pencils by John Loter, Inks and Colors by Lou Rodriguez


Walt Disney
PRESENTS:
VIRGO
THE SEARCH
FOR THE
ZODIAC STONE
AN EPIC YARN OF MICE AND DUCKS!
MICKEY MOUSE AND UNCLE SCROOGE HAVE THE ENTIRE GANG HUNTING FOR THE TWELVE PENDANTS THAT MAKE UP THE ZODIAC STONE—A TALISMAN THAT LETS ITS USER SEE INTO THE FUTURE! SO FAR THEY'VE FOUND FOUR PENDANTS IN THEIR PLANET-WIDE PURSUIT—BUT WHAT IF THE NEXT PENDANT WAS "OFF-PLANET"?...
D-1784

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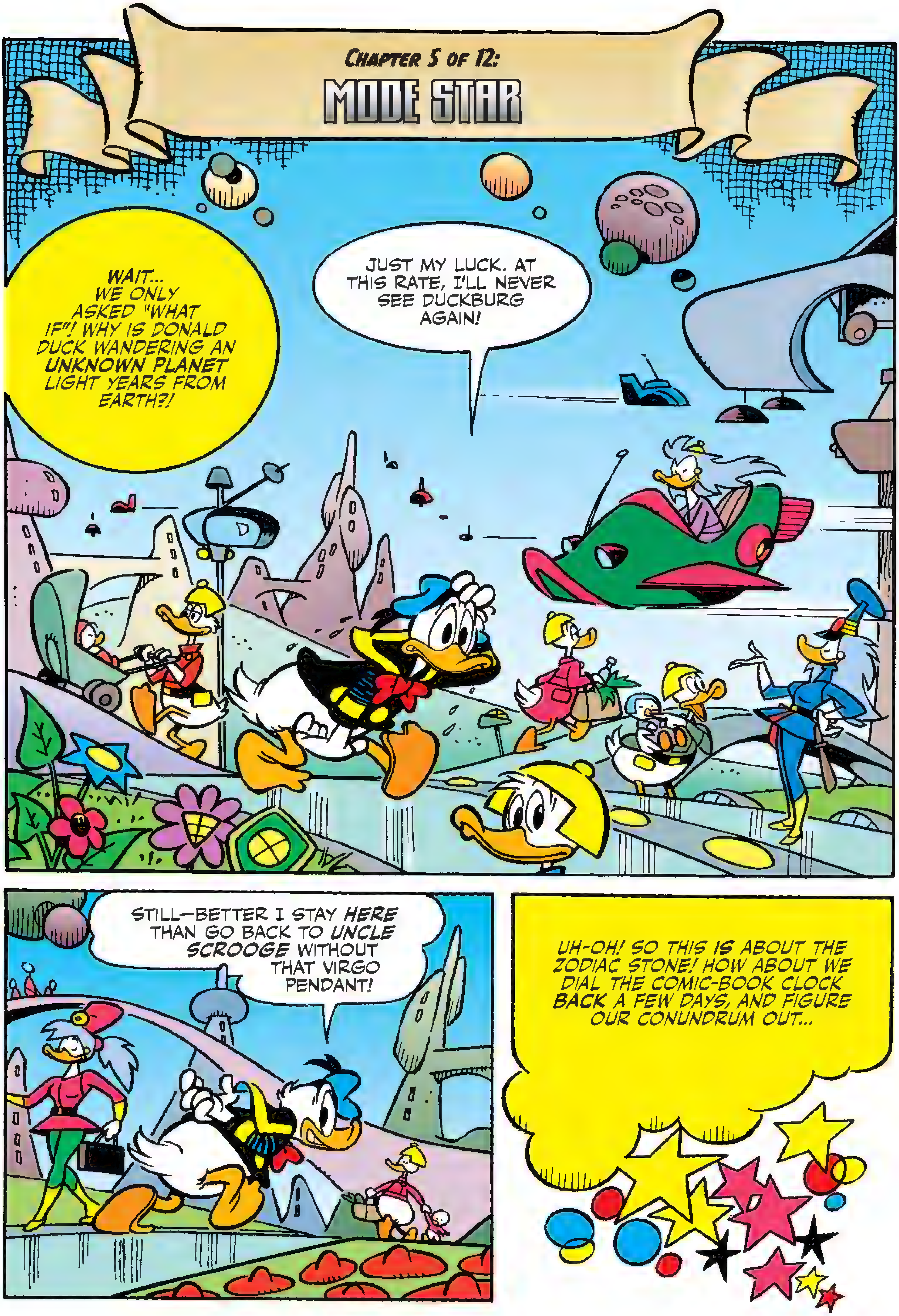
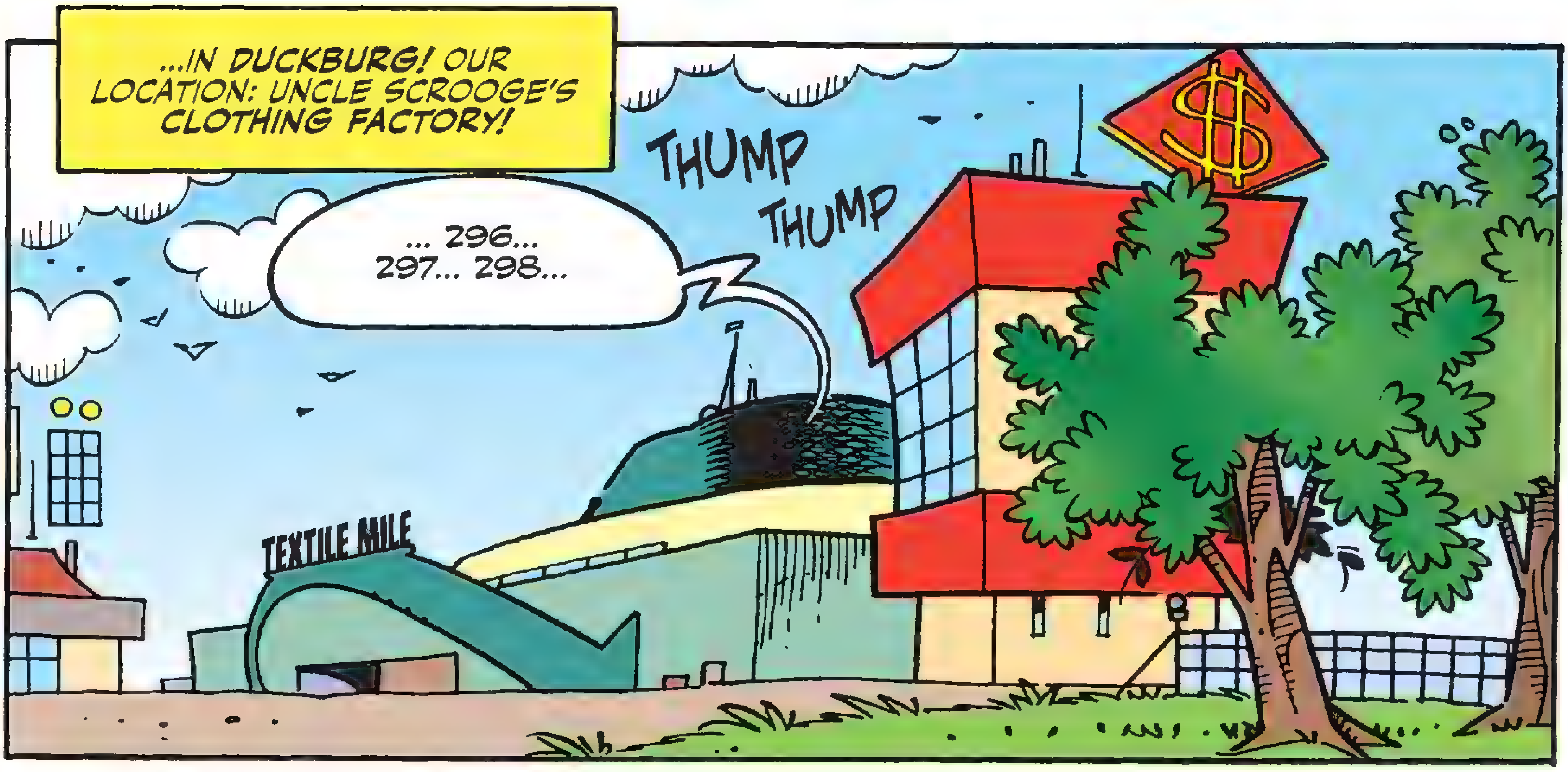
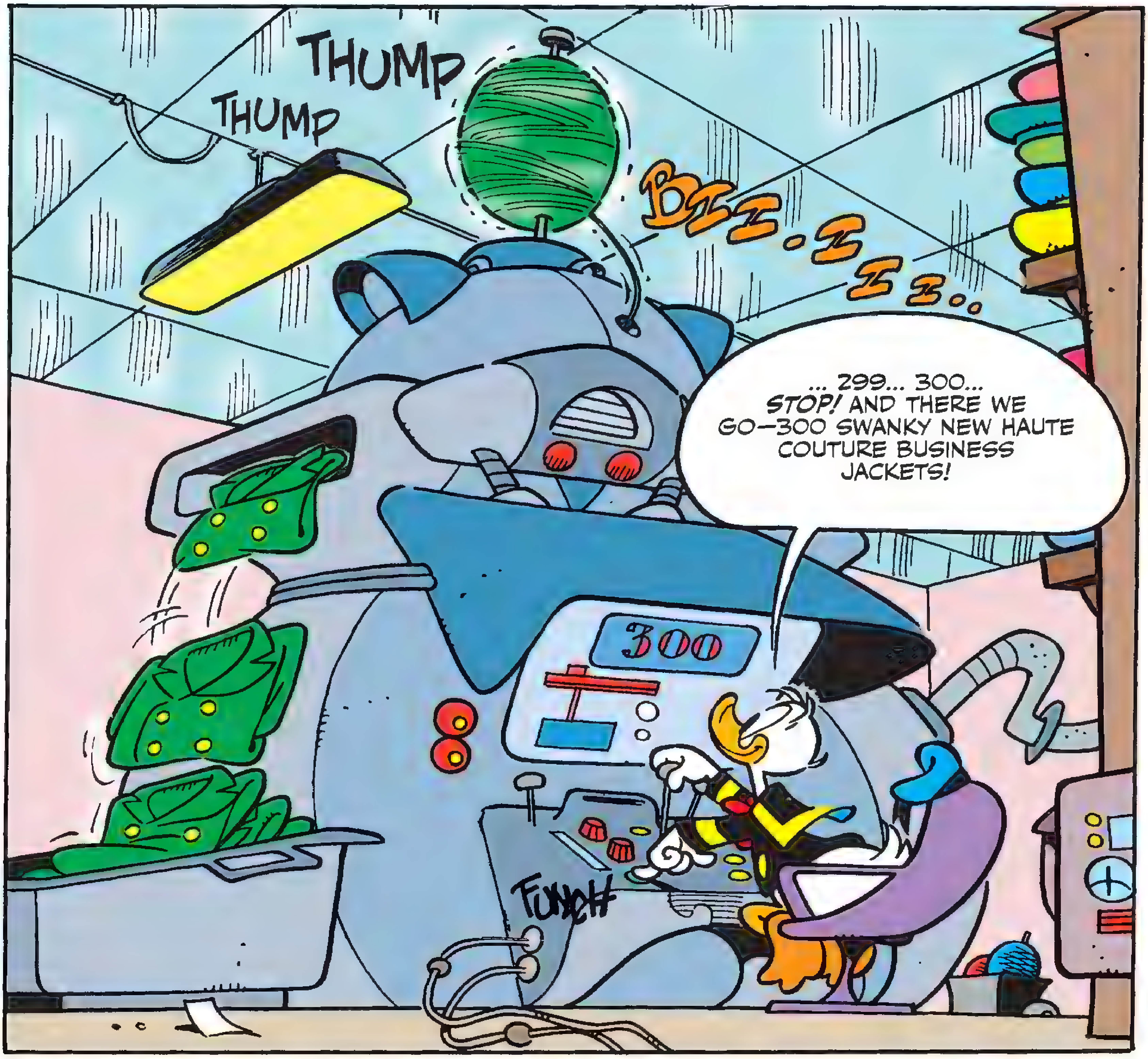
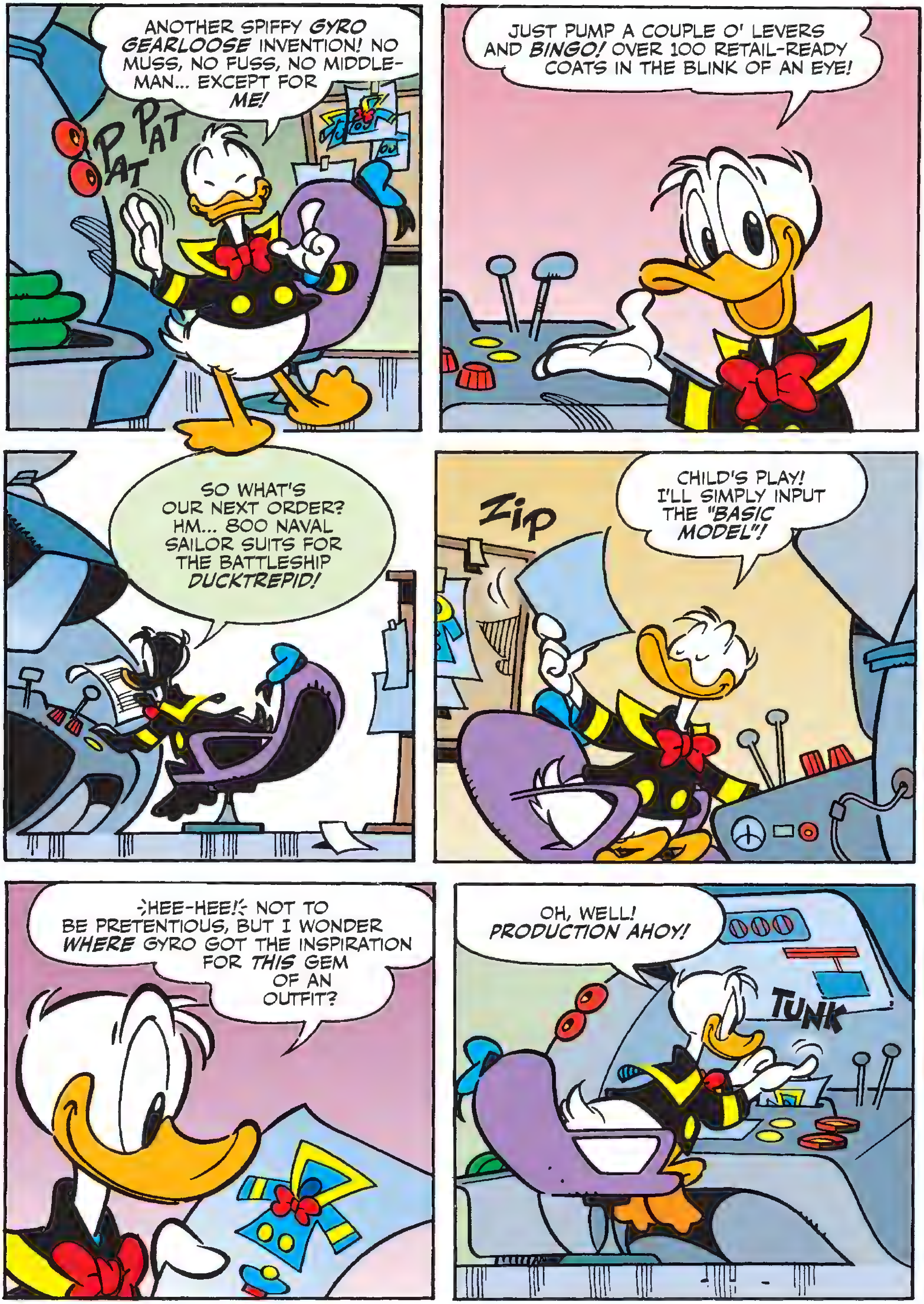
CHAPTER 5 OF 12:

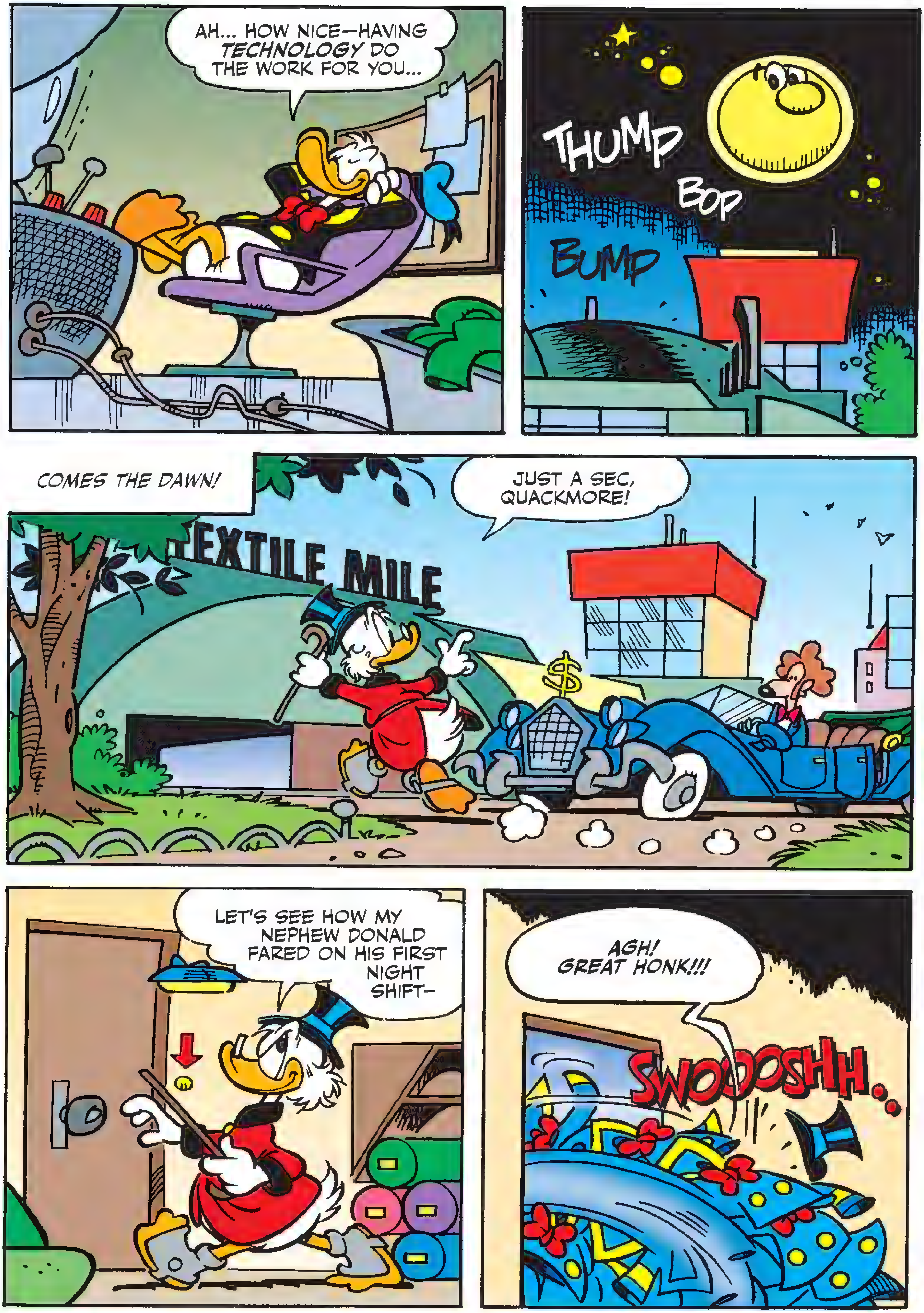
MODE STAR

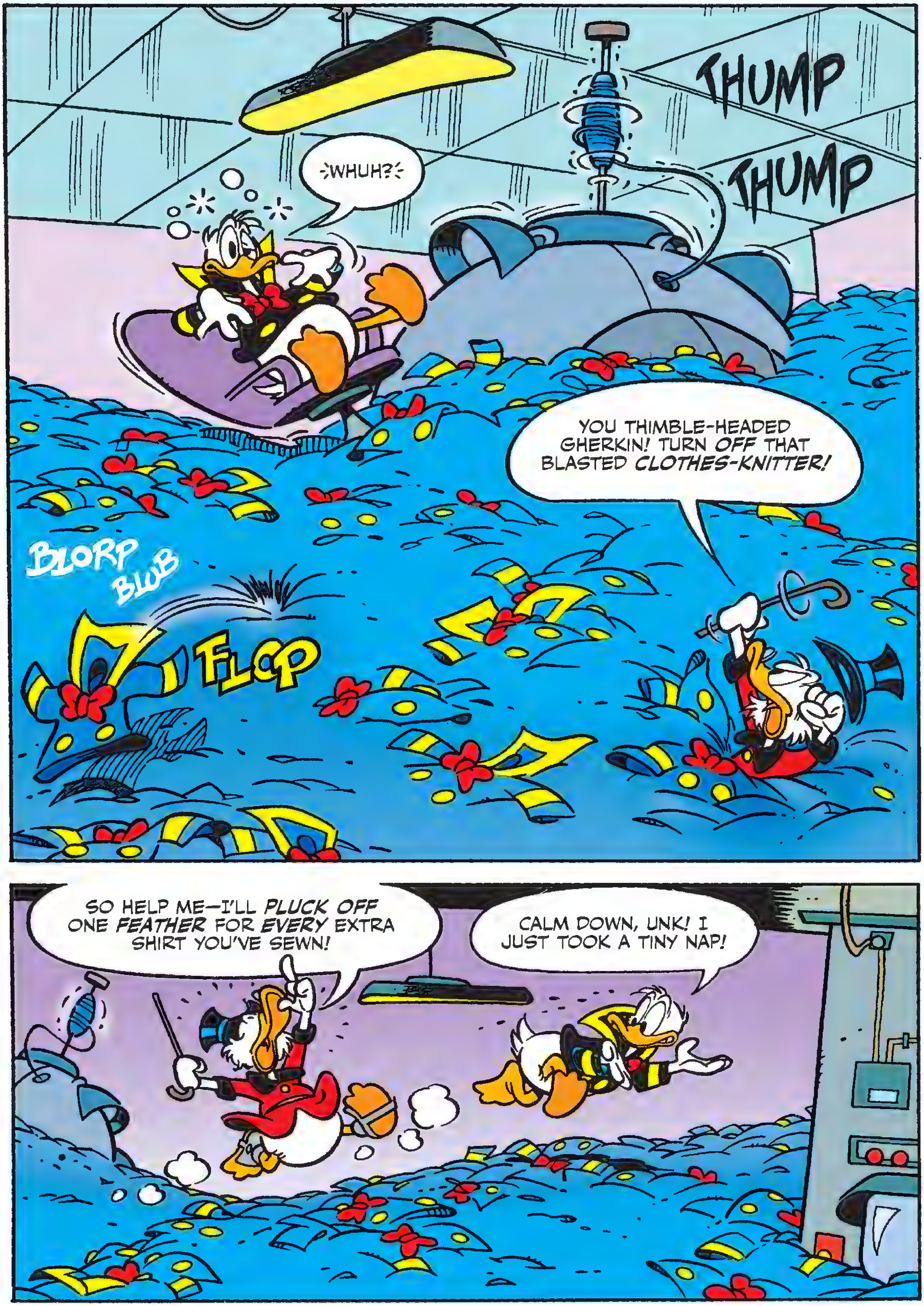

WAIT... WE ONLY ASKED "WHAT IF"! WHY IS DONALD DUCK WANDERING AN UNKNOWN PLANET LIGHT YEARS FROM EARTH?!
JUST MY LUCK. AT THIS RATE, I'LL NEVER SEE DUCKBURG AGAIN!
STILL—BETTER I STAY HERE THAN GO BACK TO UNCLE SCROOGE WITHOUT THAT VIRGO PENDANT!
UH-OH! SO THIS IS ABOUT THE ZODIAC STONE! HOW ABOUT WE DIAL THE COMIC-BOOK CLOCK BACK A FEW DAYS, AND FIGURE OUR CONUNDRUM OUT...

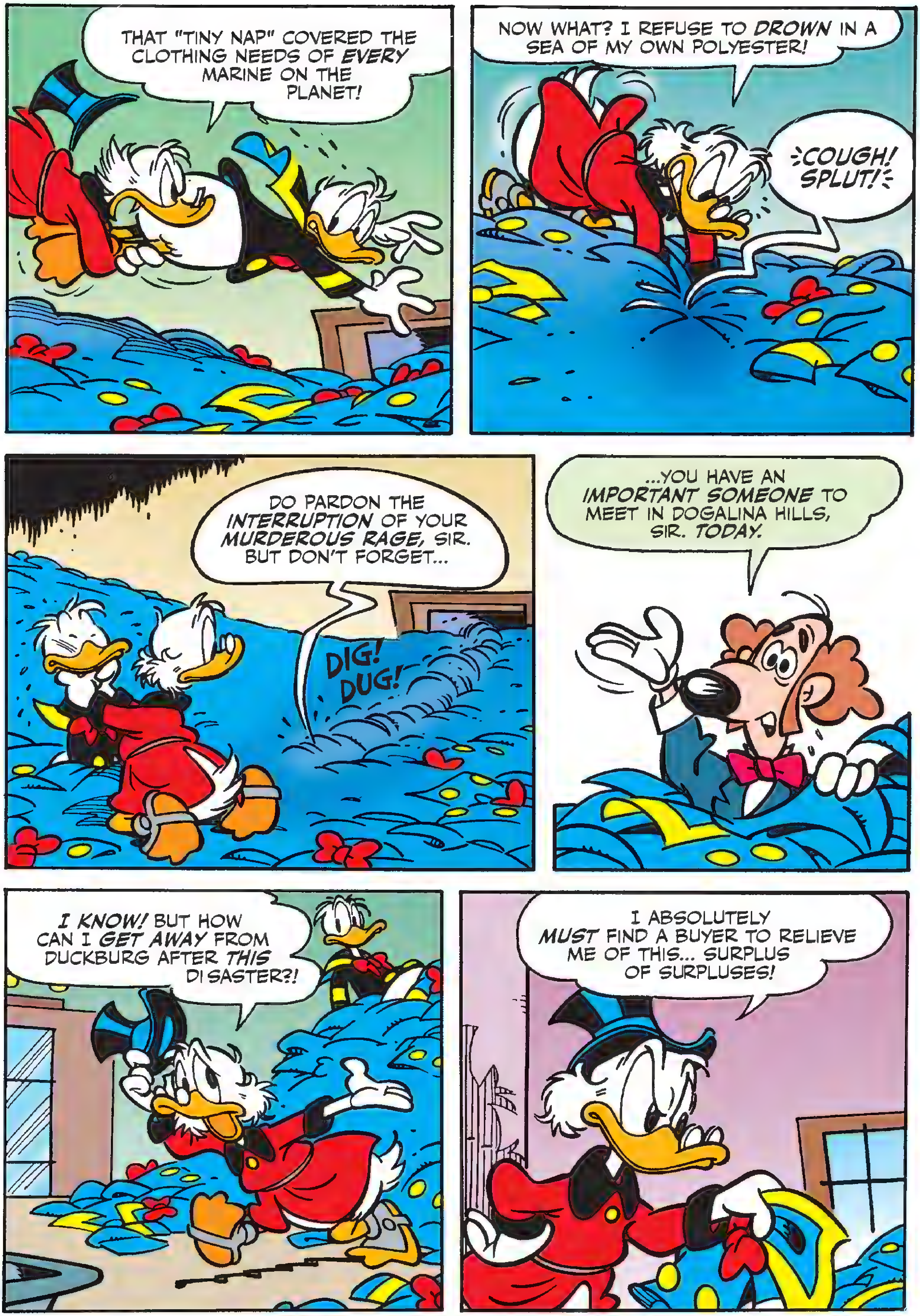

...IN DUCKBURG! OUR LOCATION: UNCLE SCROOGE'S CLOTHING FACTORY!
THUMP
THUMP
... 296... 297... 298...
$
TEXTILE MILE

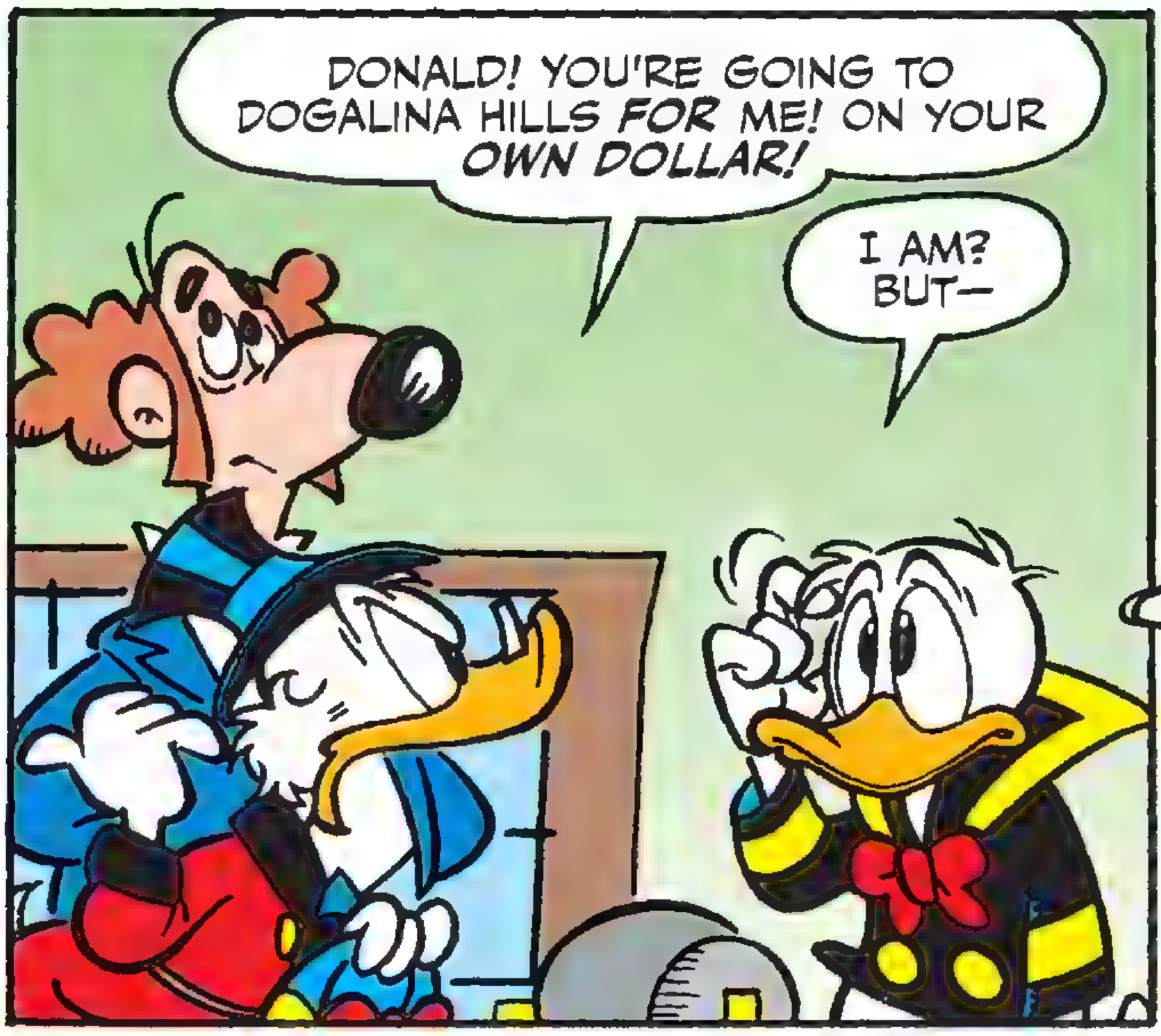

THUMP
THUMP
BZZ.ZZZ..
... 299... 300... STOP! AND THERE WE GO—300 SWANKY NEW HAUTE COUTURE BUSINESS JACKETS!
300
FUNCH

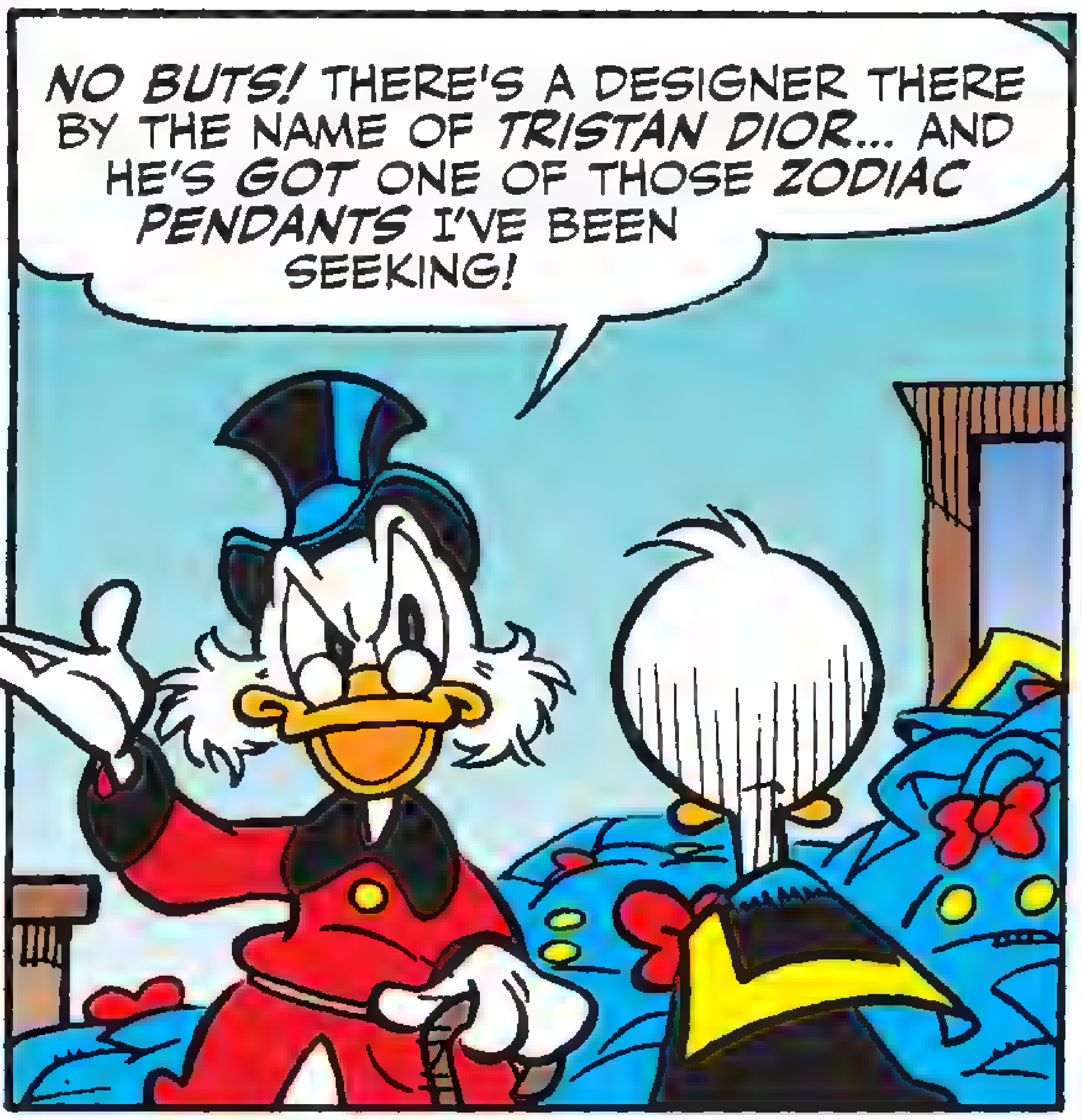

ANOTHER SPIFFY *GYRO GEARLOOSE* INVENTION! NO MUSS, NO FUSS, NO MIDDLEMAN... EXCEPT FOR *ME!*
PAT PAT PAT
JUST PUMP A COUPLE O' LEVERS AND *BINGO!* OVER 100 RETAIL-READY COATS IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE!
SO WHAT'S OUR NEXT ORDER? HM... 800 NAVAL SAILOR SUITS FOR THE BATTLESHIP *DUCKTREPID!*
ZIP
CHILD'S PLAY! I'LL SIMPLY INPUT THE *"BASIC MODEL"!*
HEE-HEE! NOT TO BE PRETENTIOUS, BUT I WONDER *WHERE* GYRO GOT THE INSPIRATION FOR *THIS* GEM OF AN OUTFIT?
OH, WELL! *PRODUCTION AHOY!*
TUNK

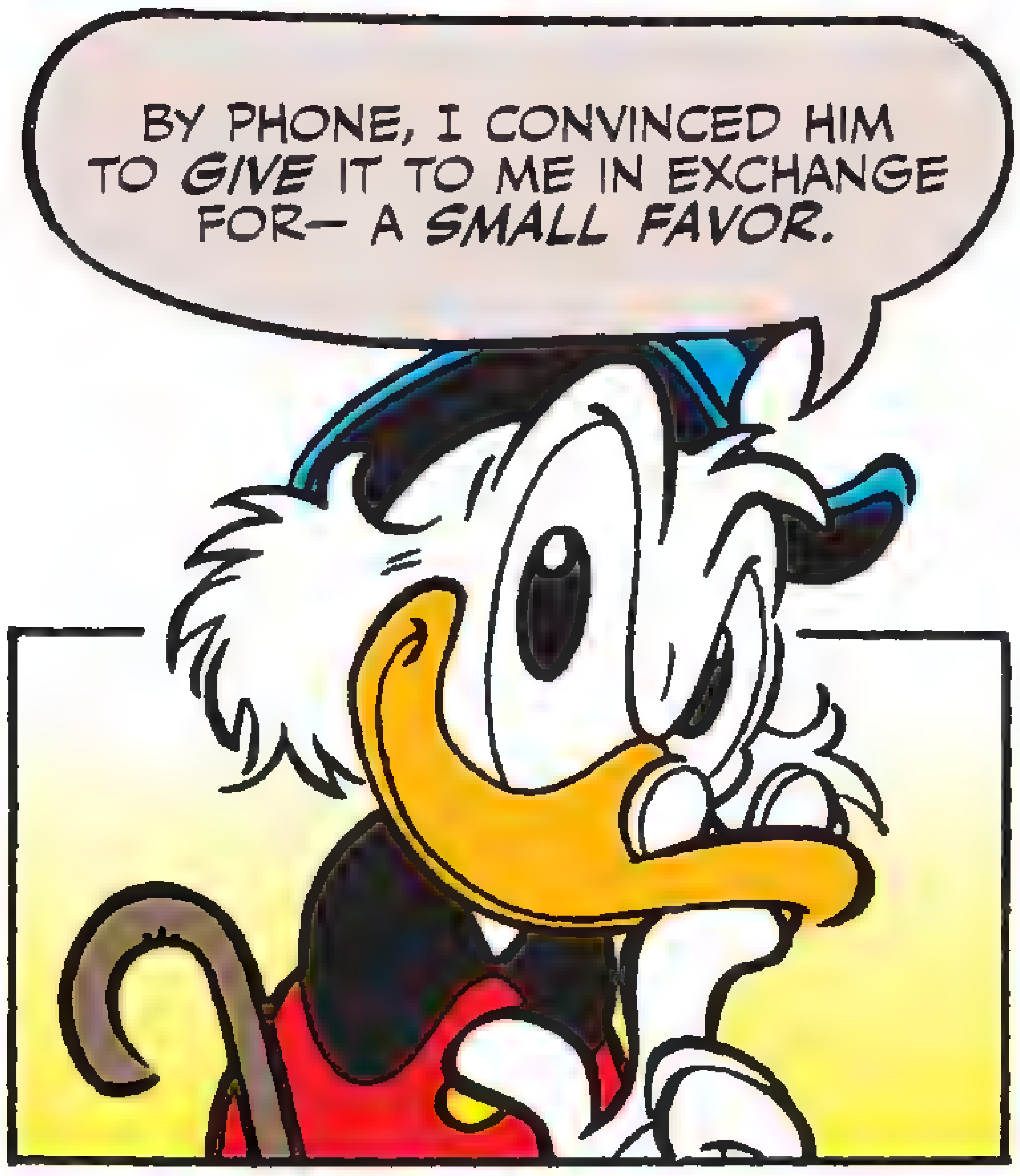

AH... HOW NICE—HAVING *TECHNOLOGY* DO THE WORK FOR YOU...
THUMP
BOP
BUMP
COMES THE DAWN!
JUST A SEC, QUACKMORE!
TEXTILE MILE
$
LET'S SEE HOW MY NEPHEW DONALD FARED ON HIS FIRST NIGHT SHIFT–
AGH! GREAT HONK!!!
SWOOOSHH..

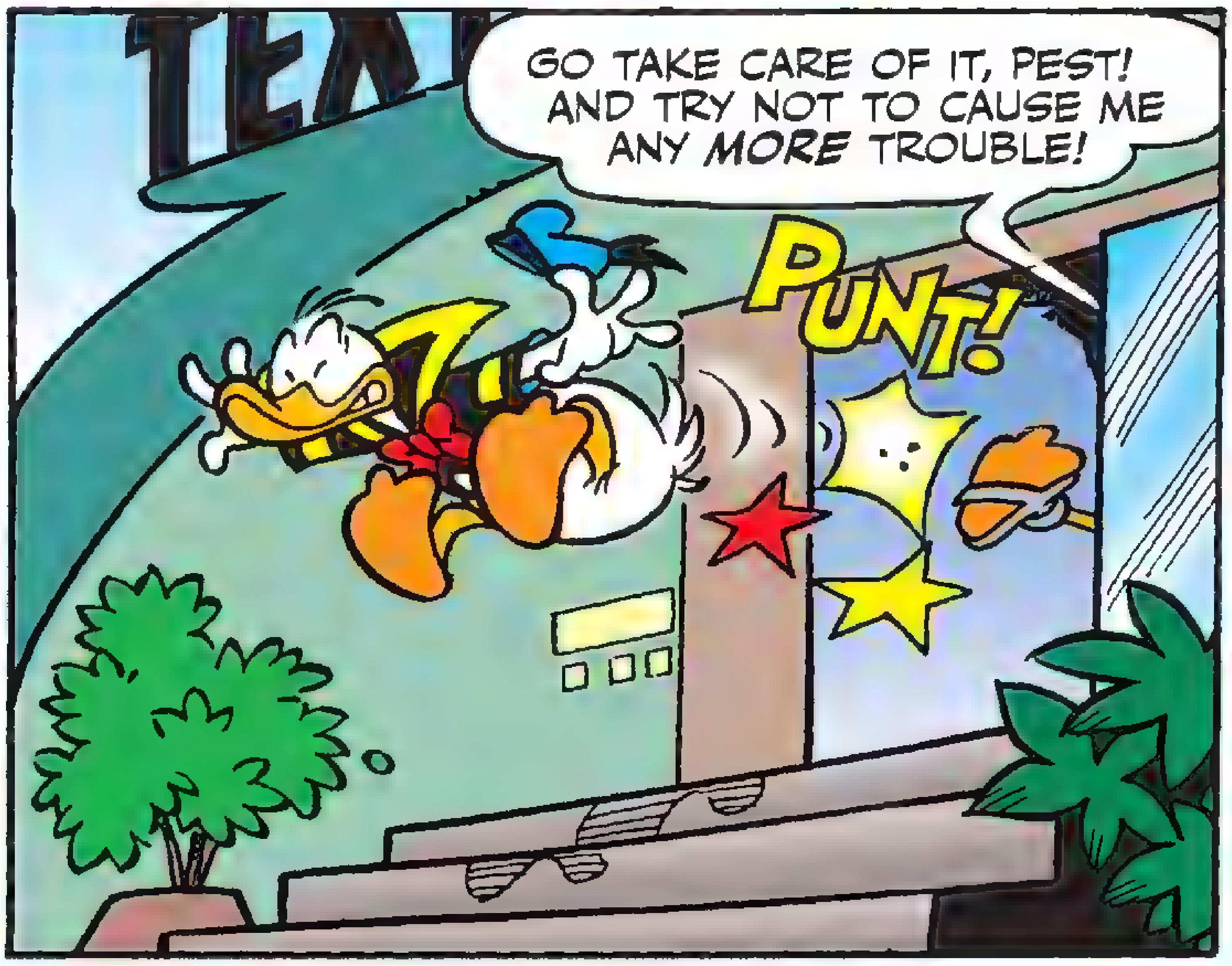

THUMP
THUMP
WHUH?
YOU THIMBLE-HEADED GHERKIN! TURN *OFF* THAT BLASTED *CLOTHES-KNITTER!*
BLORP
BLUB
FLOP
SO HELP ME—I'LL *PLUCK OFF* ONE *FEATHER* FOR *EVERY* EXTRA SHIRT YOU'VE SEWN!
CALM DOWN, UNK! I JUST TOOK A TINY NAP!

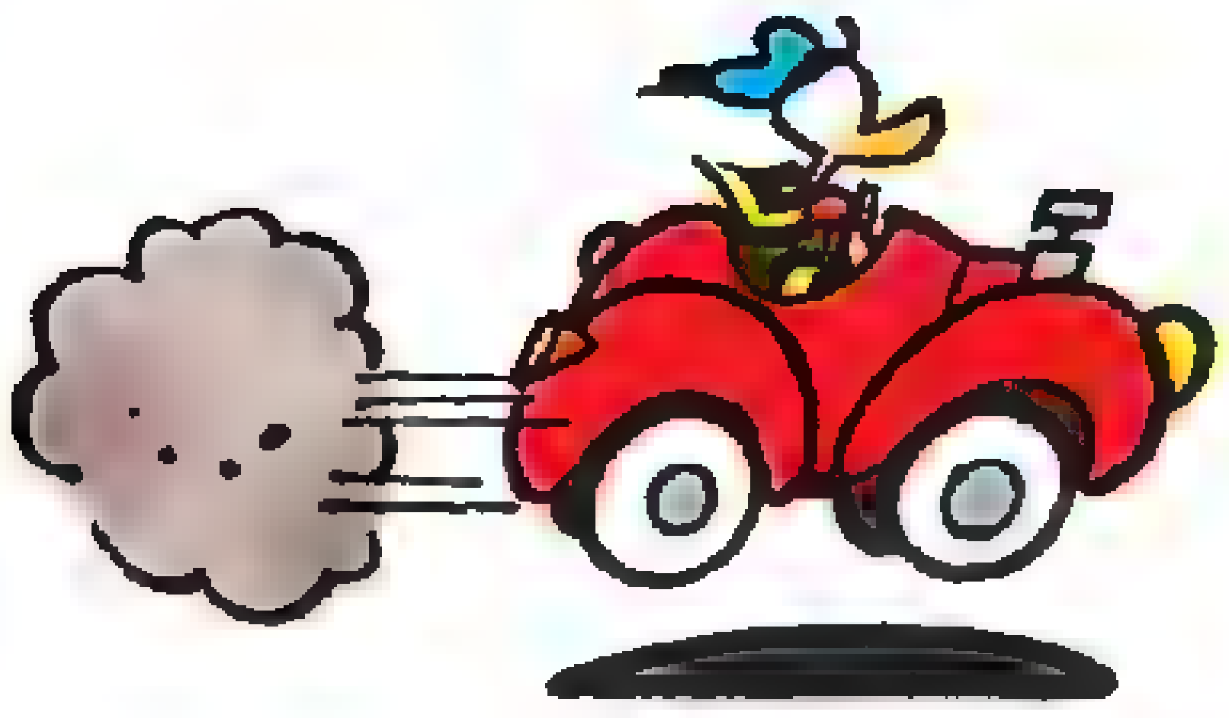

THAT "TINY NAP" COVERED THE CLOTHING NEEDS OF *EVERY* MARINE ON THE PLANET!
NOW WHAT? I REFUSE TO *DROWN* IN A SEA OF MY OWN POLYESTER!
COUGH! SPLUT!
DO PARDON THE *INTERRUPTION* OF YOUR *MURDEROUS RAGE,* SIR. BUT DON'T FORGET...
DIG! DUG!
...YOU HAVE AN *IMPORTANT SOMEONE* TO MEET IN DOGALINA HILLS, SIR. *TODAY.*
I KNOW! BUT HOW CAN I *GET AWAY* FROM DUCKBURG AFTER *THIS* DISASTER?!
I ABSOLUTELY *MUST* FIND A BUYER TO RELIEVE ME OF THIS... SURPLUS OF SURPLUSES!

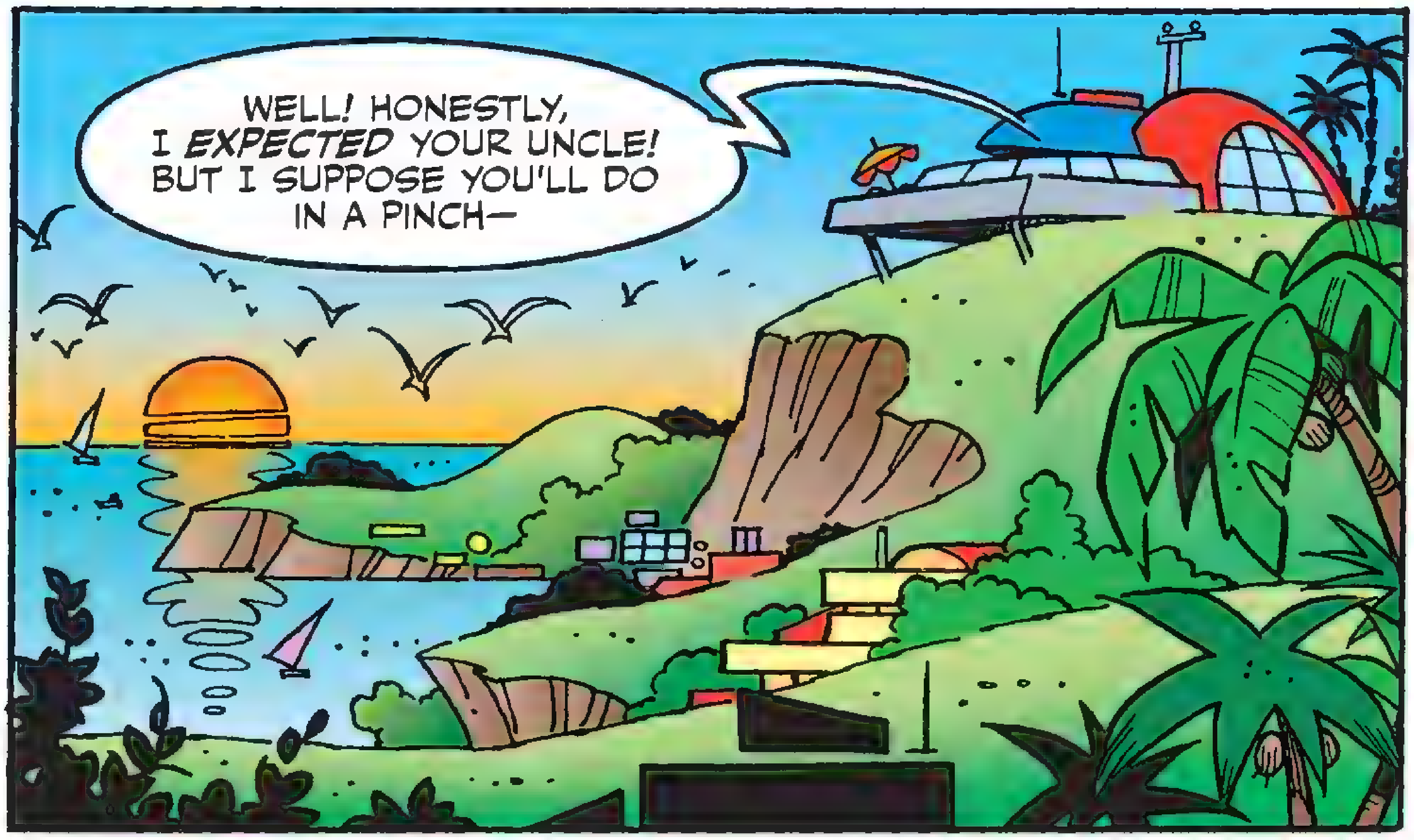

DONALD! YOU'RE GOING TO DOGALINA HILLS *FOR* ME! ON YOUR *OWN DOLLAR!*
I AM? BUT—

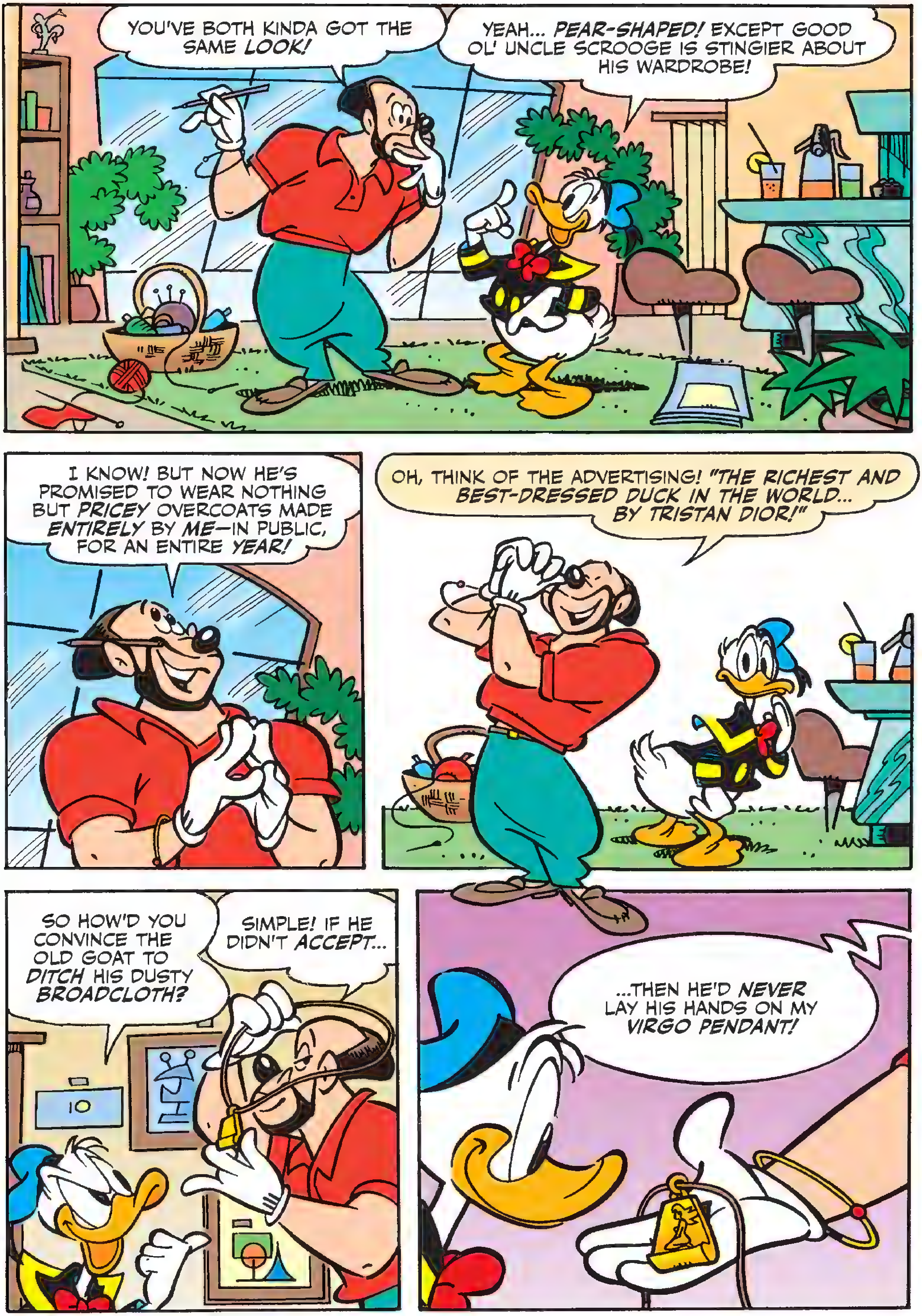

NO BUTS! THERE'S A DESIGNER THERE BY THE NAME OF *TRISTAN DIOR*... AND HE'S *GOT* ONE OF THOSE *ZODIAC PENDANTS* I'VE BEEN SEEKING!

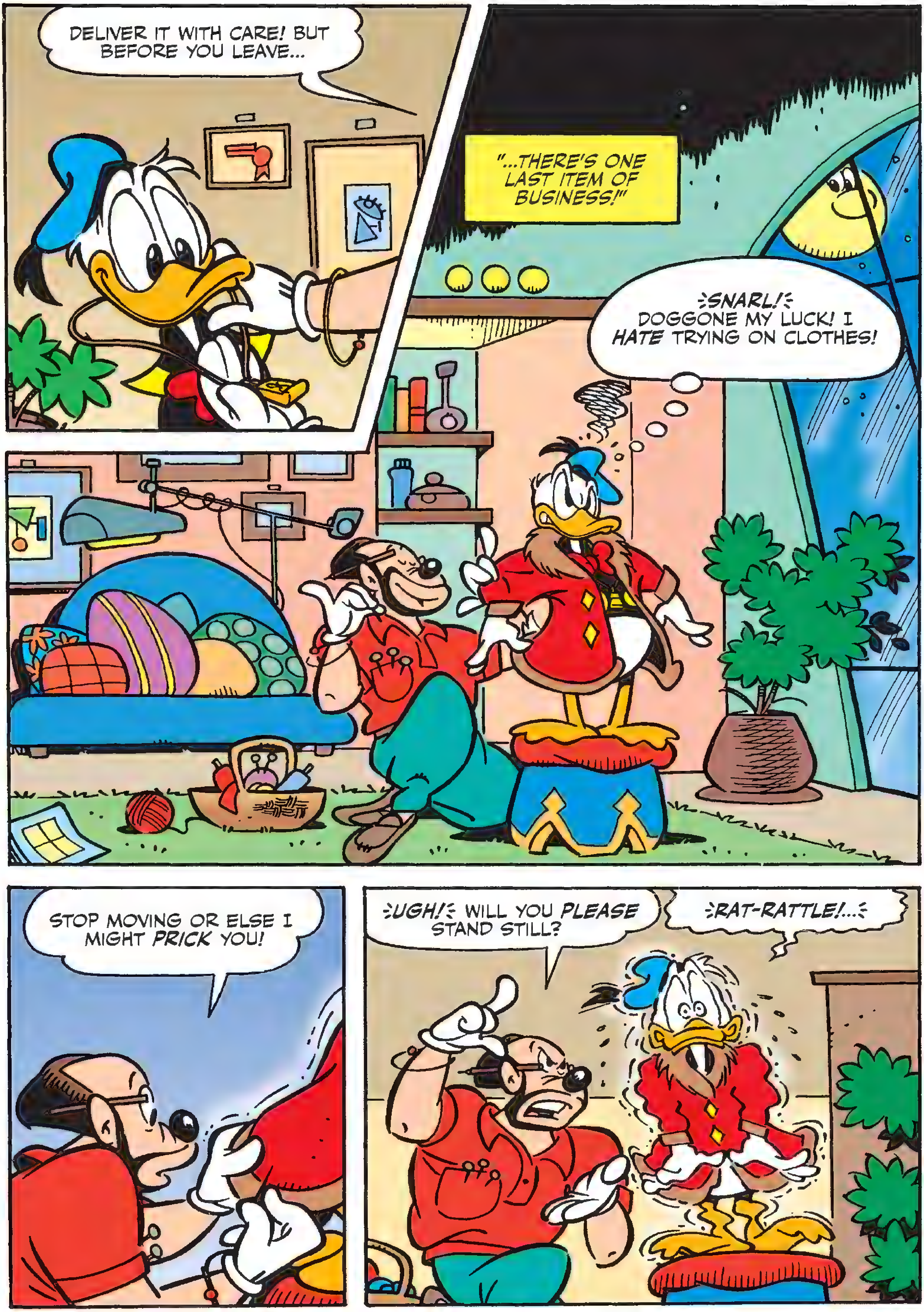

BY PHONE, I CONVINCED HIM TO *GIVE* IT TO ME IN EXCHANGE FOR— A *SMALL FAVOR.*

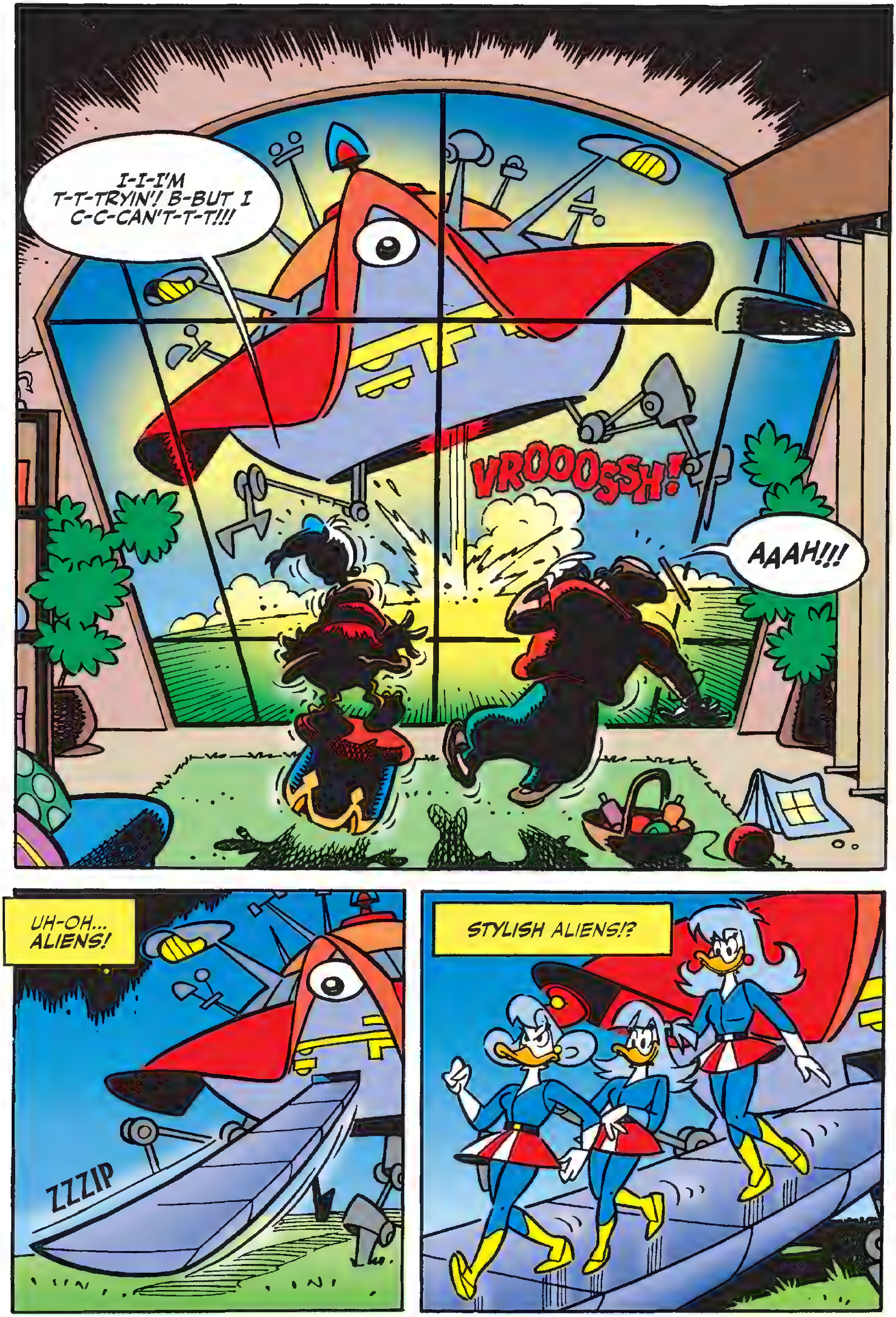

GO TAKE CARE OF IT, PEST! AND TRY NOT TO CAUSE ME ANY *MORE* TROUBLE!
PUNT!

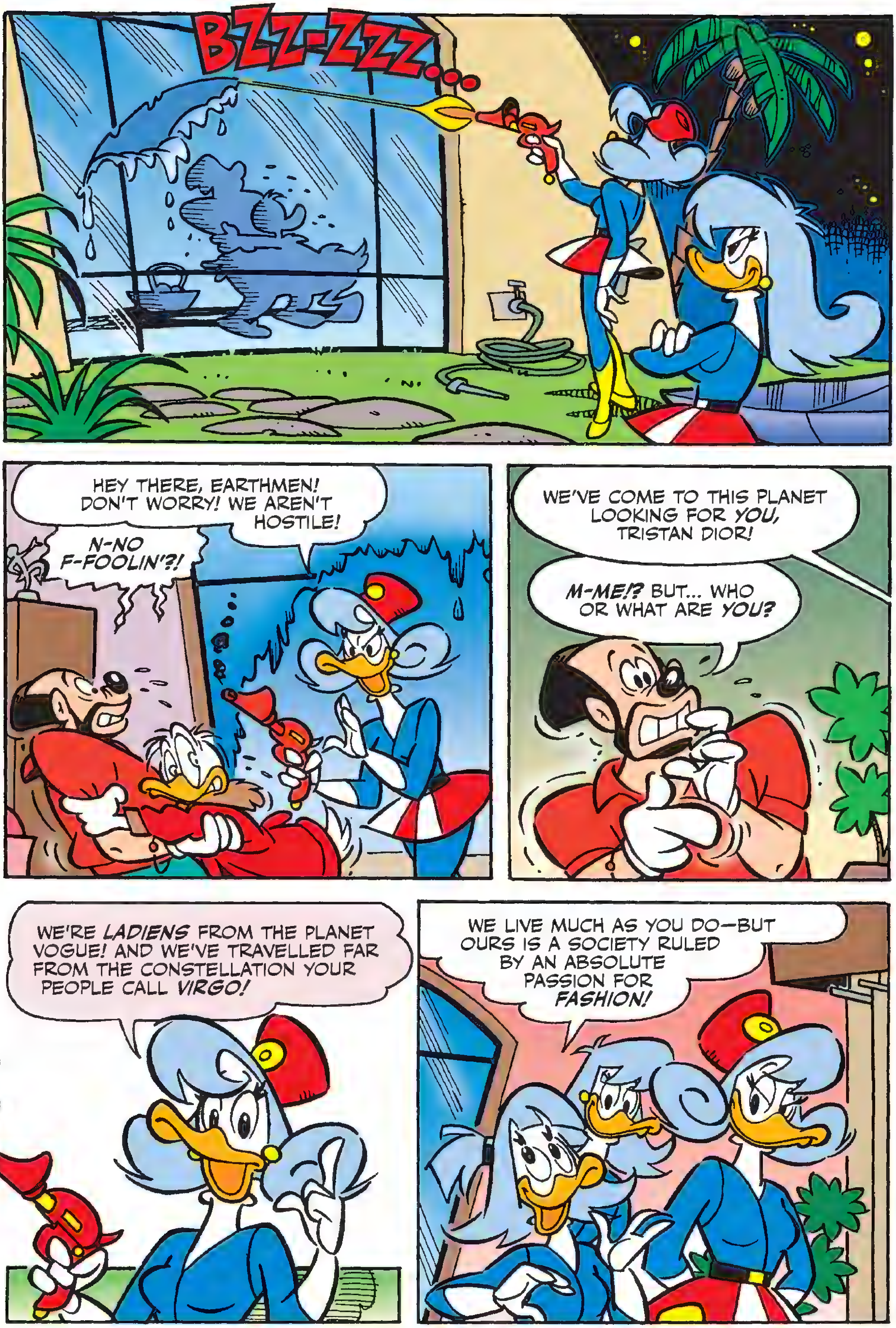

AND SO WE SPIN THE CLOCK A FEW HOURS UP, TO PICTURESQUE DOGALINA HILLS...

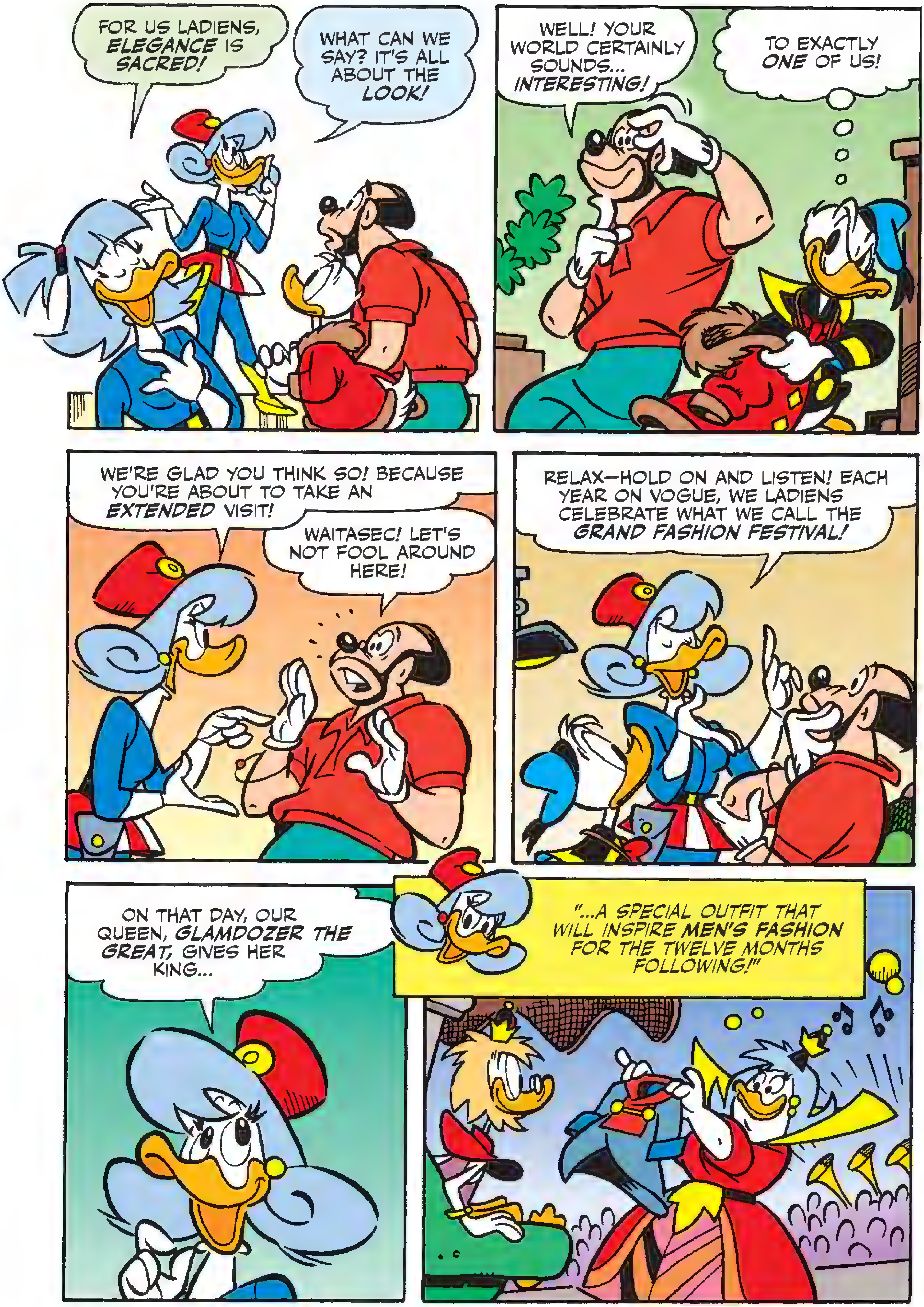

WELL! HONESTLY, I *EXPECTED* YOUR UNCLE! BUT I SUPPOSE YOU'LL DO IN A PINCH—

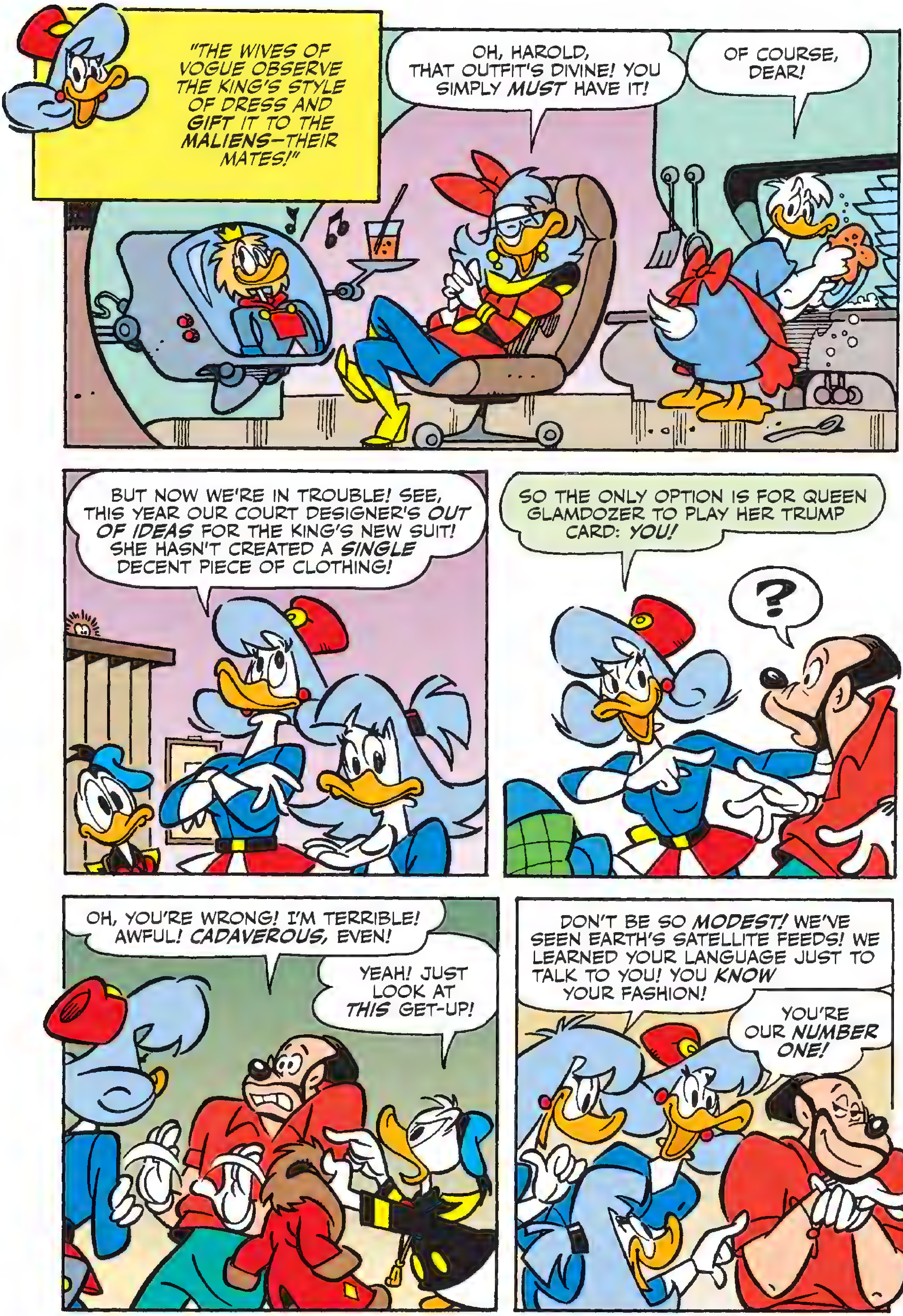

YOU'VE BOTH KINDA GOT THE SAME *LOOK!*
YEAH... *PEAR-SHAPED!* EXCEPT GOOD OL' UNCLE SCROOGE IS STINGIER ABOUT HIS WARDROBE!
I KNOW! BUT NOW HE'S PROMISED TO WEAR NOTHING BUT *PRICEY* OVERCOATS MADE *ENTIRELY* BY *ME*—IN PUBLIC, FOR AN ENTIRE *YEAR!*
OH, THINK OF THE ADVERTISING! *"THE RICHEST AND BEST-DRESSED DUCK IN THE WORLD... BY TRISTAN DIOR!"*
SO HOW'D YOU CONVINCE THE OLD GOAT TO *DITCH* HIS DUSTY *BROADCLOTH?*
SIMPLE! IF HE DIDN'T *ACCEPT...*
...THEN HE'D *NEVER* LAY HIS HANDS ON MY *VIRGO PENDANT!*
10

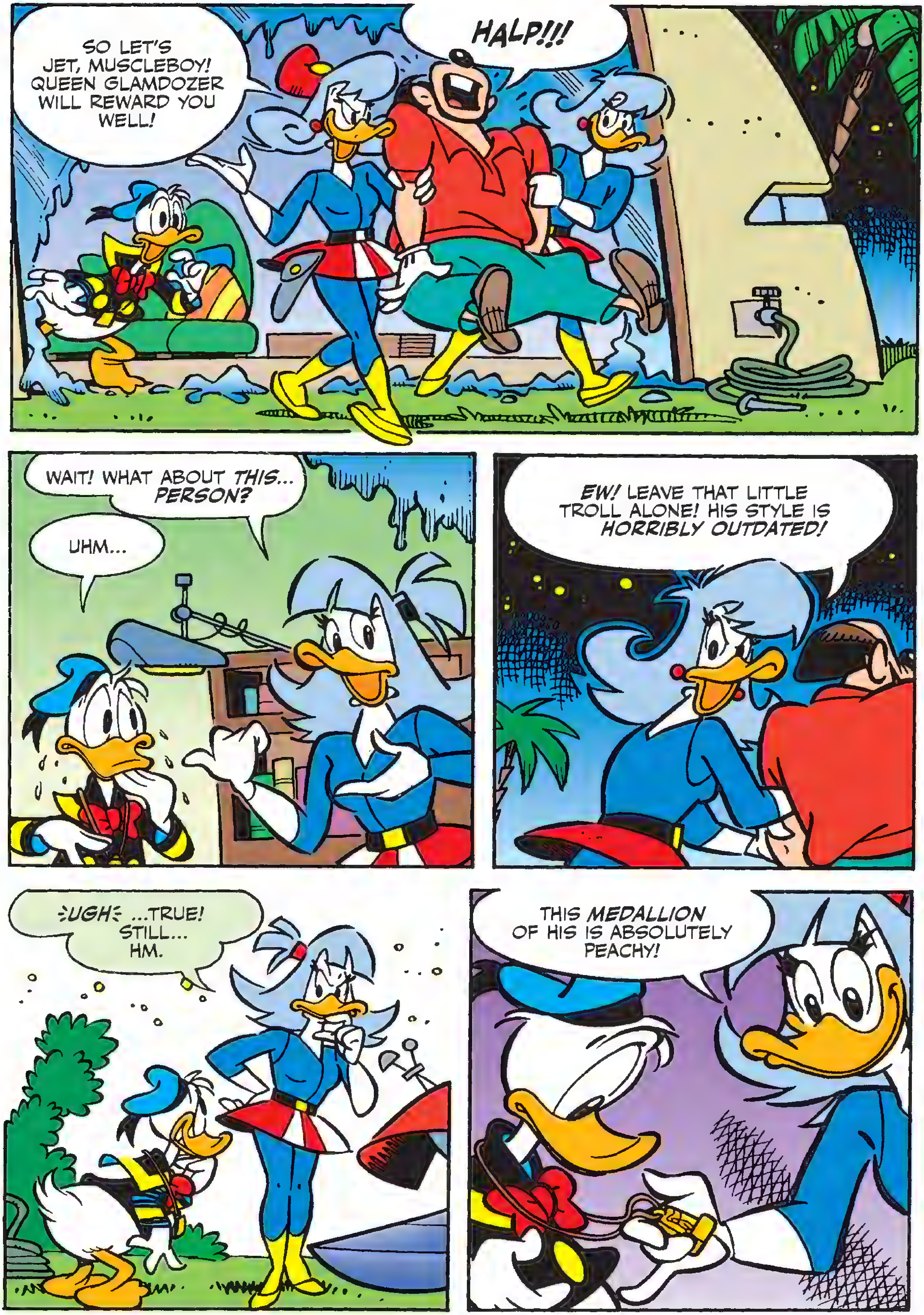

DELIVER IT WITH CARE! BUT BEFORE YOU LEAVE...
"...THERE'S ONE LAST ITEM OF BUSINESS!"
⁘SNARL!⁘ DOGGONE MY LUCK! I *HATE* TRYING ON CLOTHES!
STOP MOVING OR ELSE I MIGHT *PRICK* YOU!
⁘UGH!⁘ WILL YOU *PLEASE* STAND STILL?
⁘RAT-RATTLE!...⁘

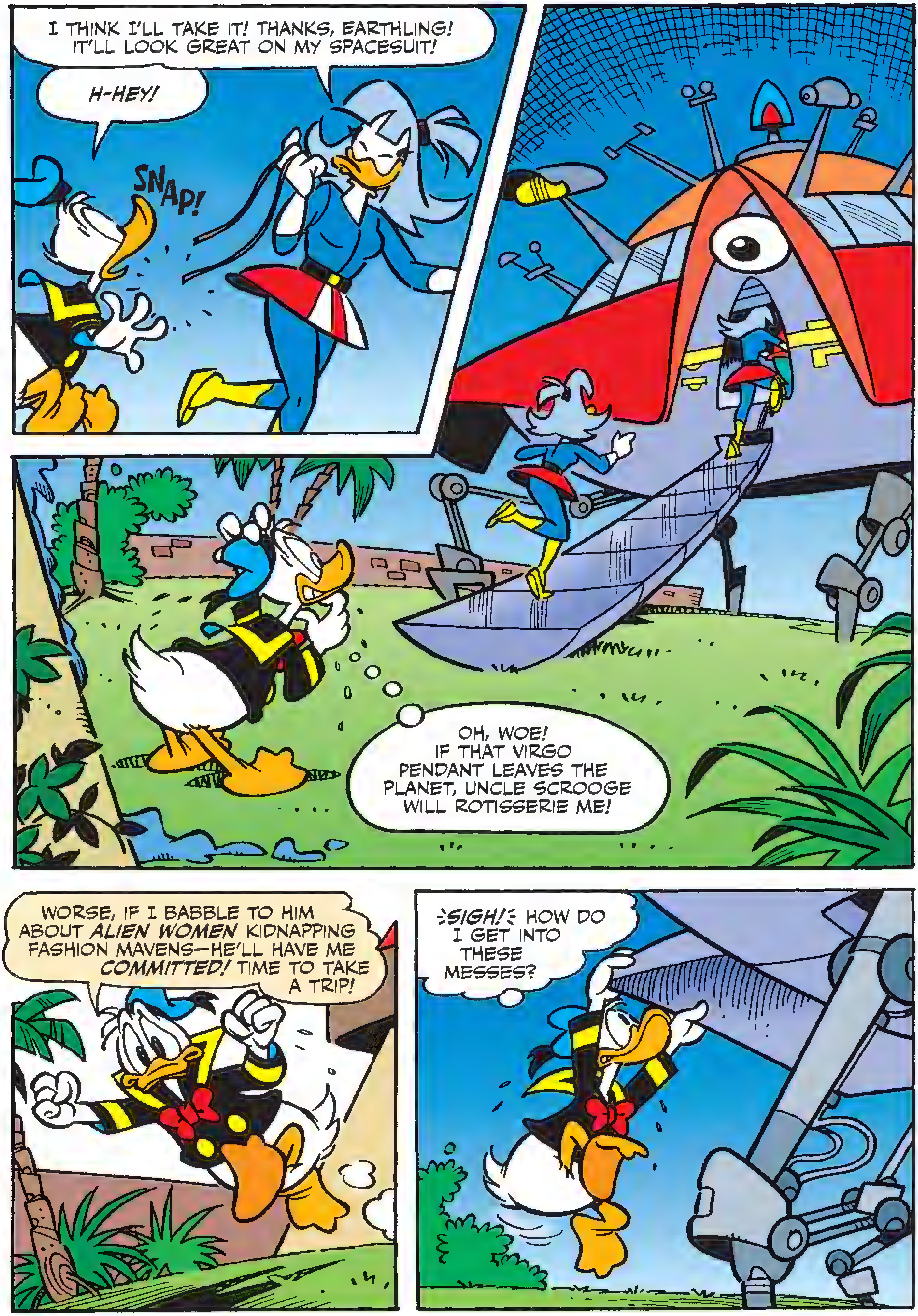

I-I-I'M T-T-TRYIN'! B-BUT I C-C-CAN'T-T-T!!!
VROOOSSH!
AAAH!!!
UH-OH... ALIENS!
ZZZIP
STYLISH ALIENS!?

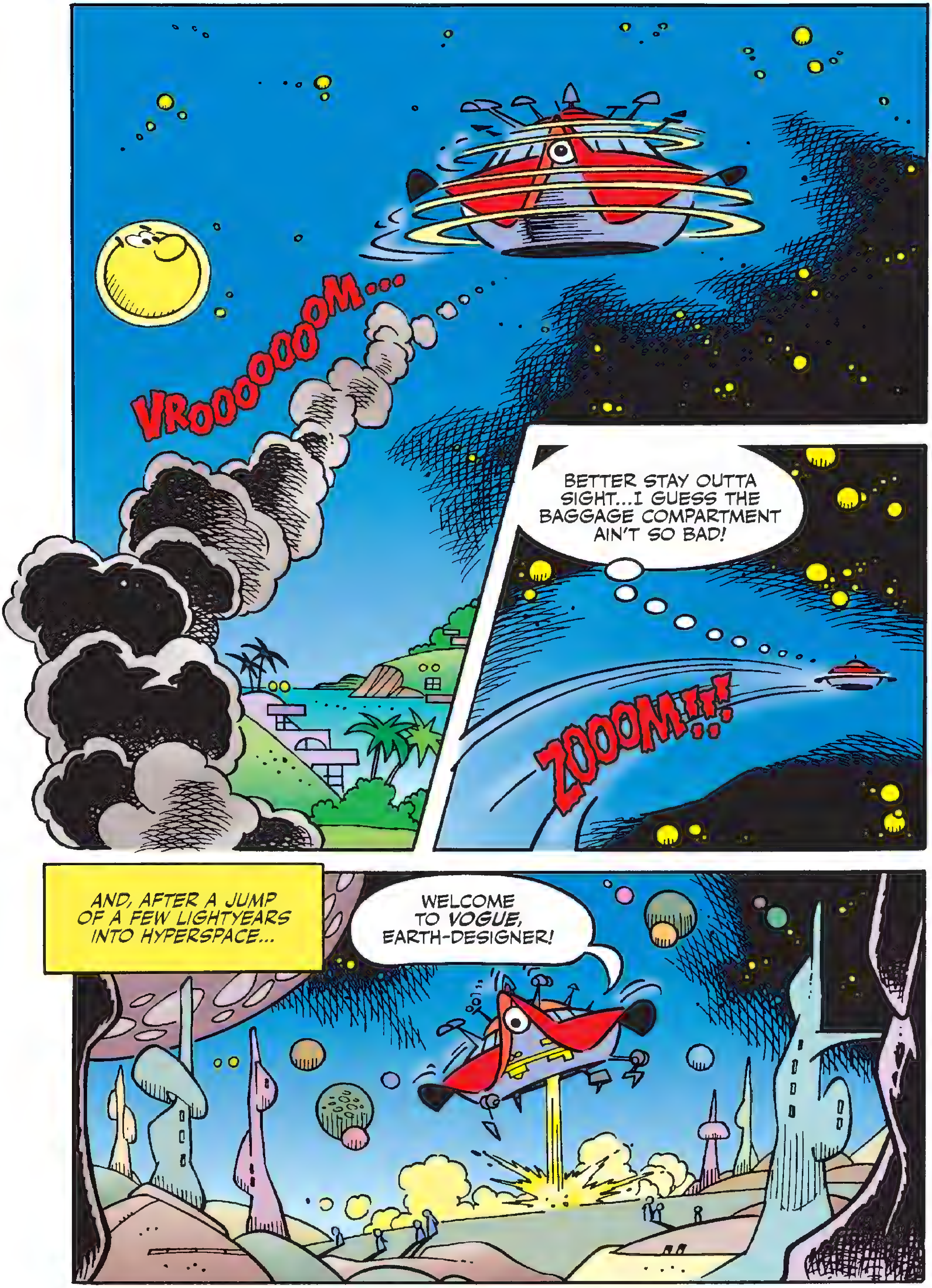

BZZ-ZZZ...
HEY THERE, EARTHMEN! DON'T WORRY! WE AREN'T HOSTILE!
N-NO F-FOOLIN'?!
WE'VE COME TO THIS PLANET LOOKING FOR *YOU,* TRISTAN DIOR!
M-ME!? BUT... WHO OR WHAT ARE *YOU?*
WE'RE *LADIENS* FROM THE PLANET VOGUE! AND WE'VE TRAVELLED FAR FROM THE CONSTELLATION YOUR PEOPLE CALL *VIRGO!*
WE LIVE MUCH AS YOU DO—BUT OURS IS A SOCIETY RULED BY AN ABSOLUTE PASSION FOR *FASHION!*

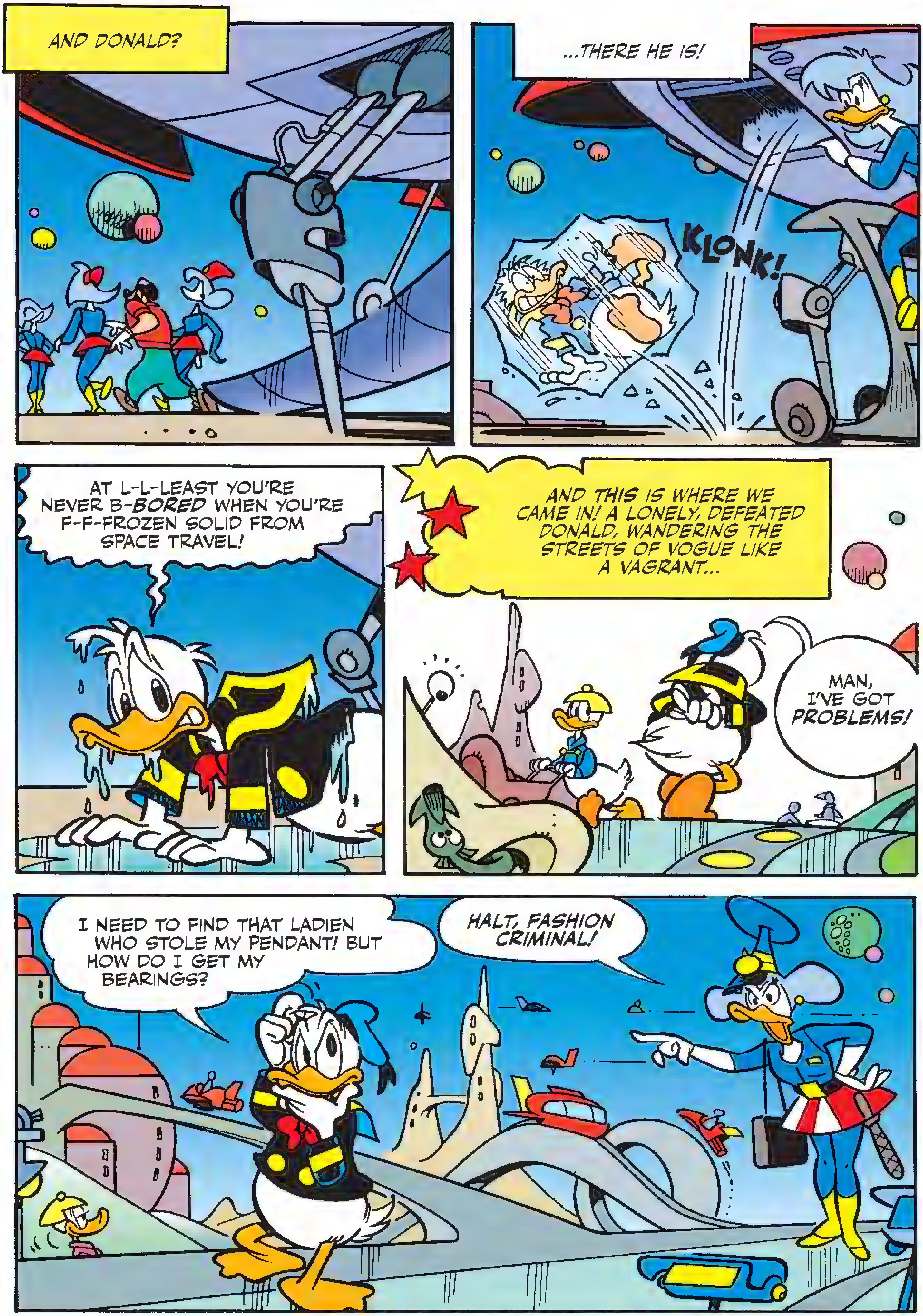

FOR US LADIENS, *ELEGANCE* IS *SACRED!*
WHAT CAN WE SAY? IT'S ALL ABOUT THE *LOOK!*
WELL! YOUR WORLD CERTAINLY SOUNDS... *INTERESTING!*
TO EXACTLY *ONE* OF US!
WE'RE GLAD YOU THINK SO! BECAUSE YOU'RE ABOUT TO TAKE AN *EXTENDED* VISIT!
WAITASEC! LET'S NOT FOOL AROUND HERE!
RELAX—HOLD ON AND LISTEN! EACH YEAR ON VOGUE, WE LADIENS CELEBRATE WHAT WE CALL THE *GRAND FASHION FESTIVAL!*
ON THAT DAY, OUR QUEEN, *GLAMDOZER THE GREAT,* GIVES HER KING...
"...A SPECIAL OUTFIT THAT WILL INSPIRE MEN'S FASHION *FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS FOLLOWING!"*

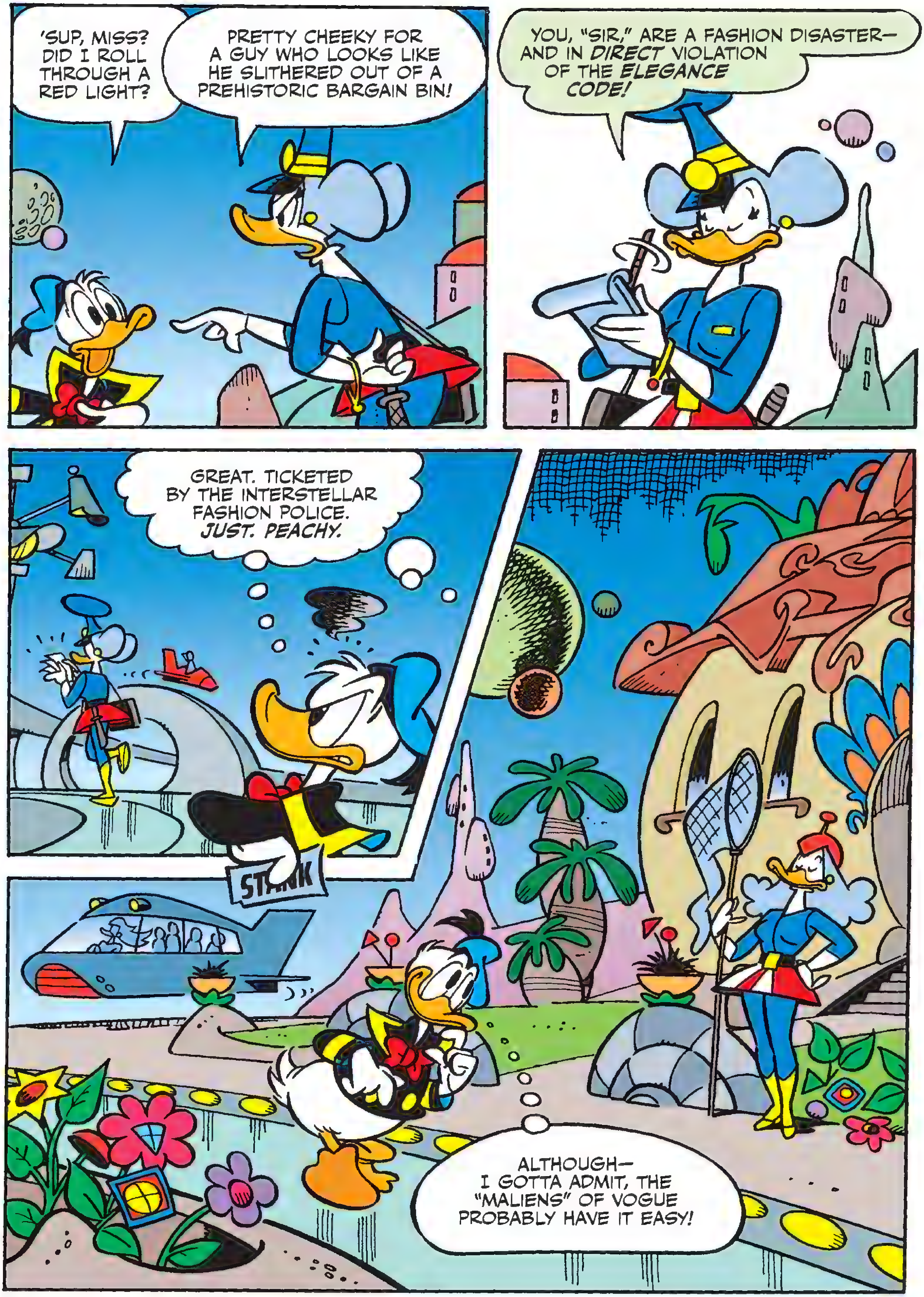

"THE WIVES OF VOGUE OBSERVE THE KING'S STYLE OF DRESS AND GIFT IT TO THE MALIENS—THEIR MATES!"
OH, HAROLD, THAT OUTFIT'S DIVINE! YOU SIMPLY MUST HAVE IT!
OF COURSE, DEAR!
BUT NOW WE'RE IN TROUBLE! SEE, THIS YEAR OUR COURT DESIGNER'S OUT OF IDEAS FOR THE KING'S NEW SUIT! SHE HASN'T CREATED A SINGLE DECENT PIECE OF CLOTHING!
SO THE ONLY OPTION IS FOR QUEEN GLAMDOZER TO PLAY HER TRUMP CARD: YOU!
?
OH, YOU'RE WRONG! I'M TERRIBLE! AWFUL! CADAVEROUS, EVEN!
YEAH! JUST LOOK AT THIS GET-UP!
DON'T BE SO MODEST! WE'VE SEEN EARTH'S SATELLITE FEEDS! WE LEARNED YOUR LANGUAGE JUST TO TALK TO YOU! YOU KNOW YOUR FASHION!
YOU'RE OUR NUMBER ONE!

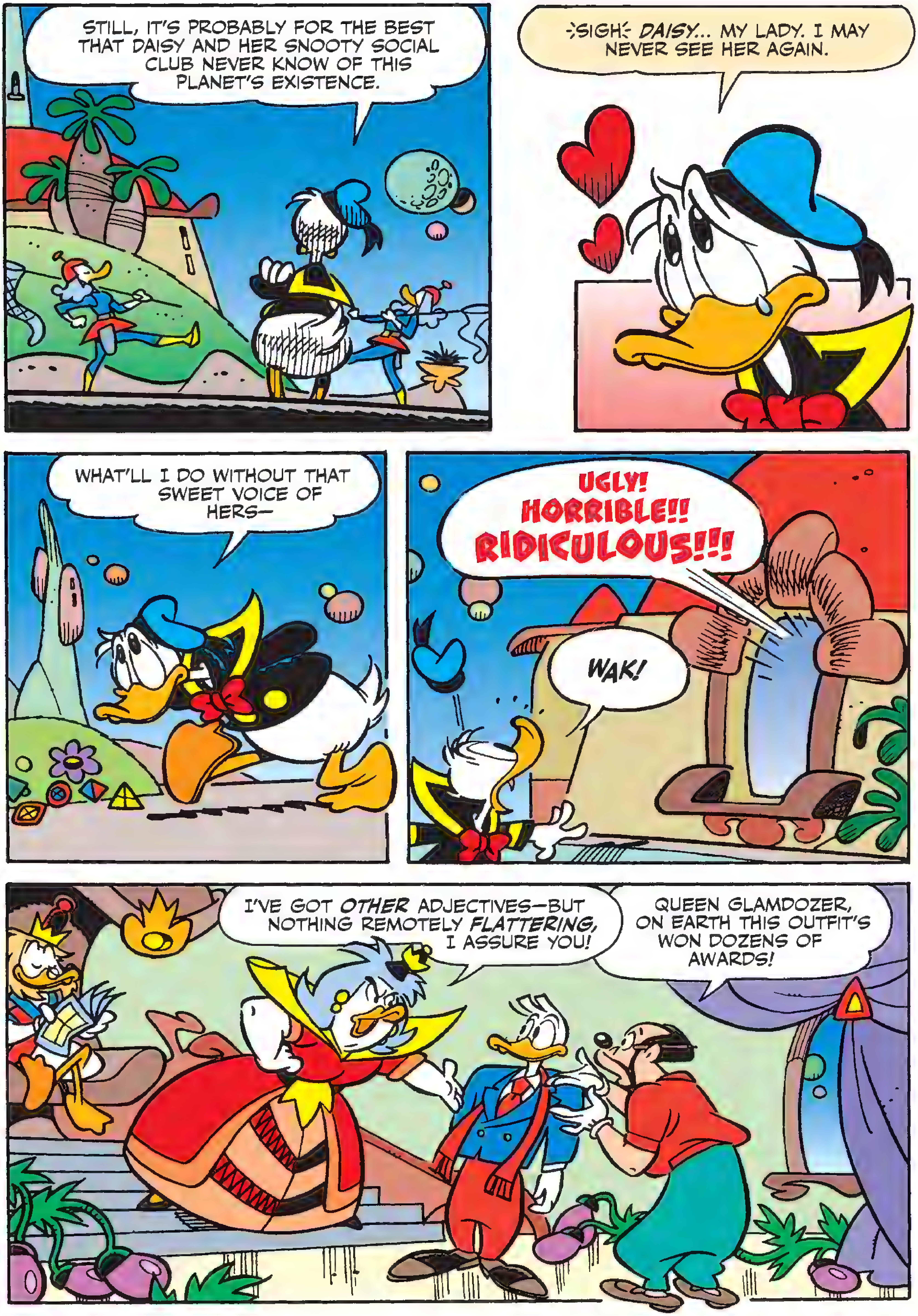

SO LET'S JET, MUSCLEBOY! QUEEN GLAMDOZER WILL REWARD YOU WELL!
HALP!!!
WAIT! WHAT ABOUT *THIS*... *PERSON?*
UHM...
EW! LEAVE THAT LITTLE TROLL ALONE! HIS STYLE IS *HORRIBLY OUTDATED!*
UGH ...TRUE! STILL... HM.
THIS *MEDALLION* OF HIS IS ABSOLUTELY PEACHY!

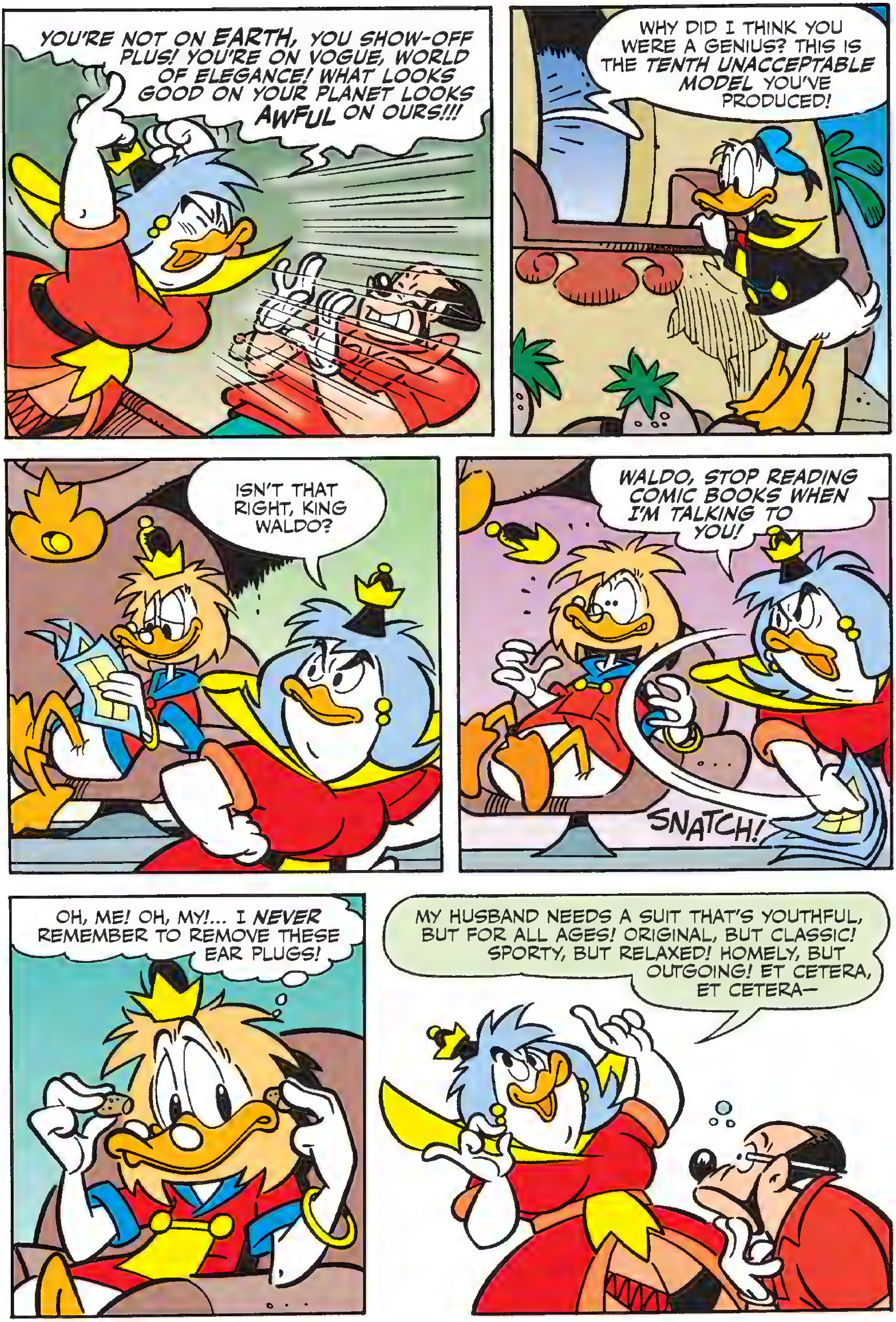

I THINK I'LL TAKE IT! THANKS, EARTHLING! IT'LL LOOK GREAT ON MY SPACESUIT!
H-HEY!
SNAP!
OH, WOE! IF THAT VIRGO PENDANT LEAVES THE PLANET, UNCLE SCROOGE WILL ROTISSERIE ME!
WORSE, IF I BABBLE TO HIM ABOUT ALIEN WOMEN KIDNAPPING FASHION MAVENS—HE'LL HAVE ME COMMITTED! TIME TO TAKE A TRIP!
SIGH! HOW DO I GET INTO THESE MESSES?

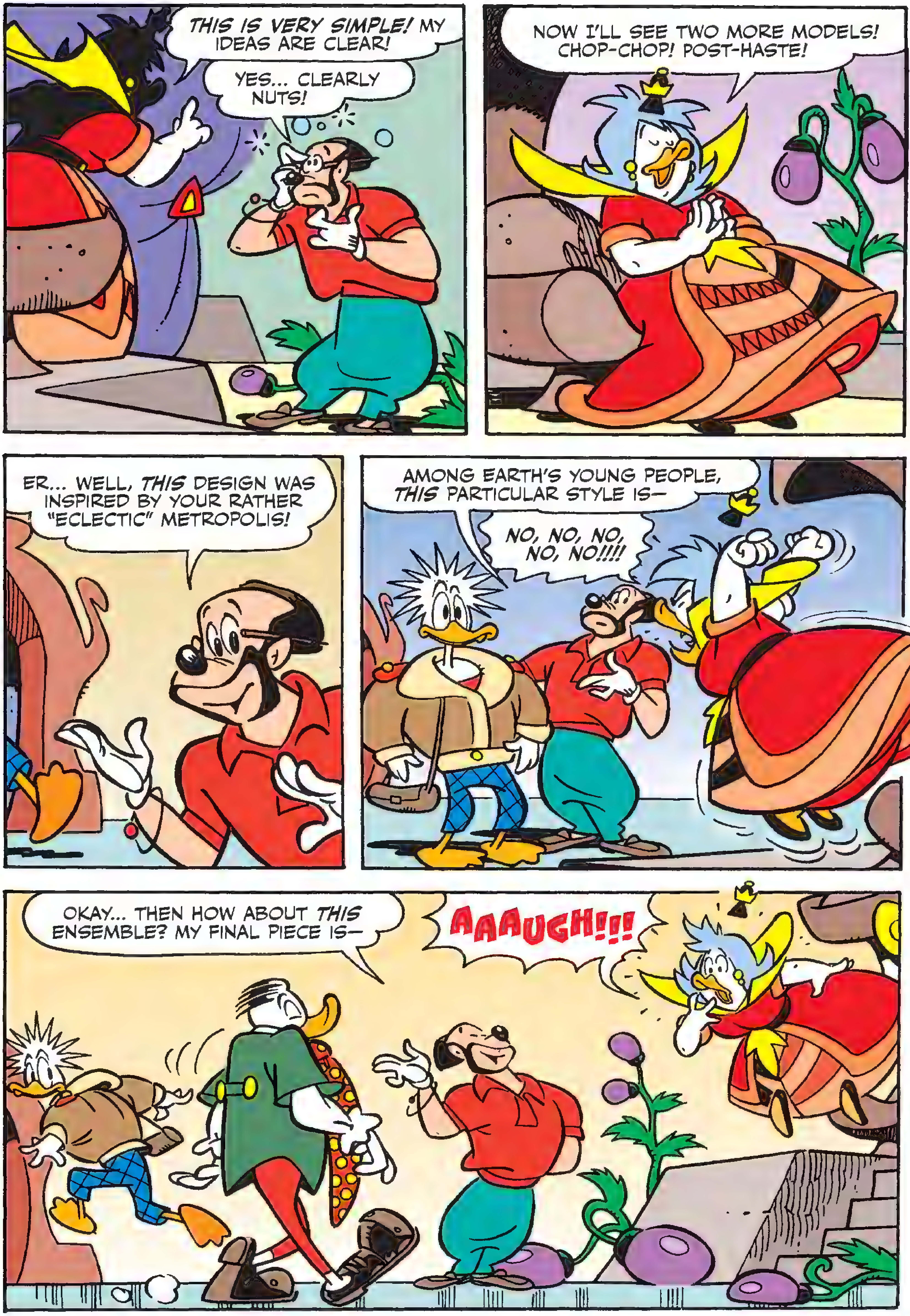

VROOOOOOOM...
BETTER STAY OUTTA SIGHT...I GUESS THE BAGGAGE COMPARTMENT AIN'T SO BAD!
ZOOOM!!!
AND, AFTER A JUMP OF A FEW LIGHTYEARS INTO HYPERSPACE...
WELCOME TO *VOGUE*, EARTH-DESIGNER!

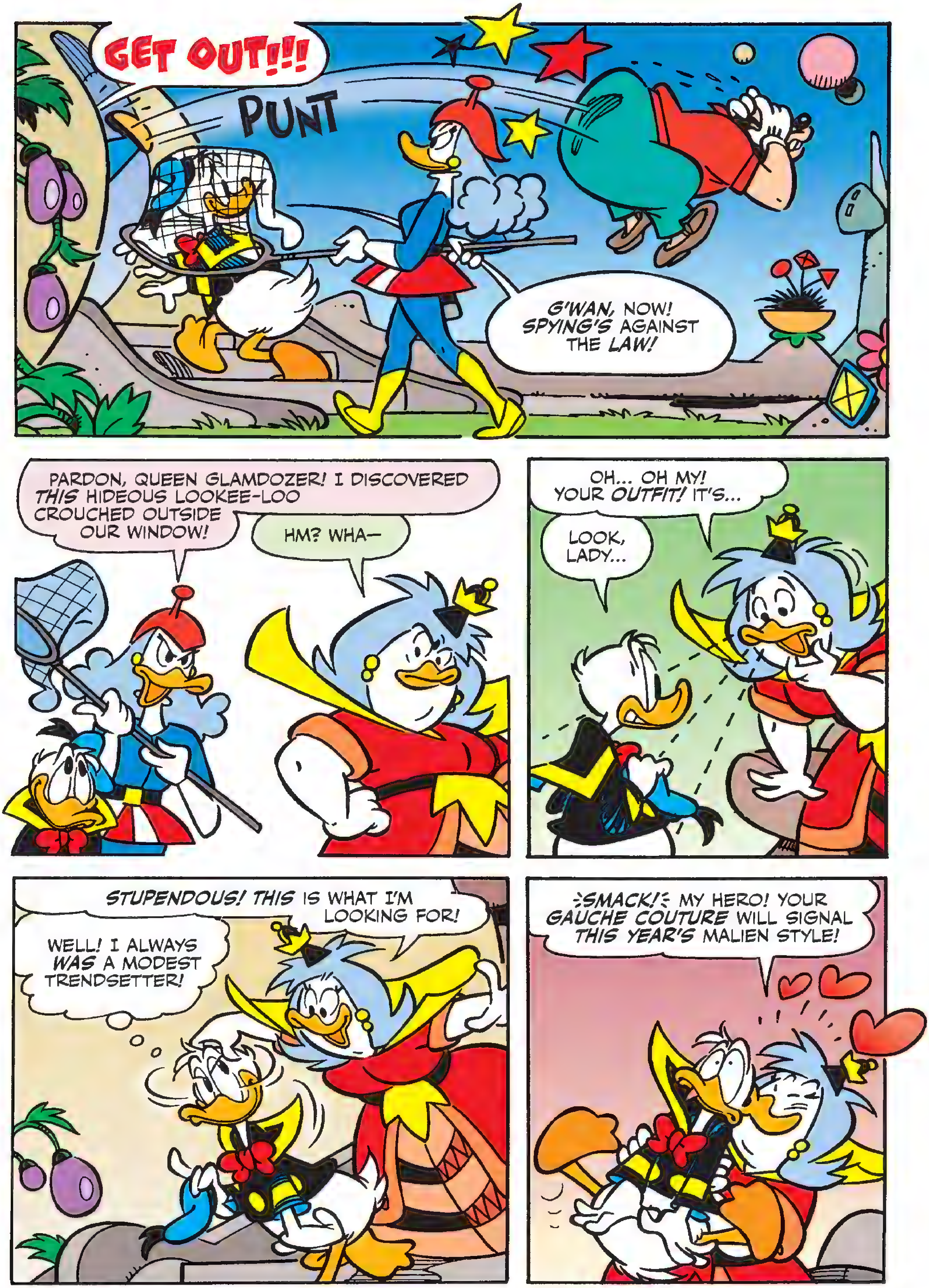

AND DONALD?
...THERE HE IS!
KLONK!
AT L-L-LEAST YOU'RE NEVER B-*BORED* WHEN YOU'RE F-F-FROZEN SOLID FROM SPACE TRAVEL!
AND *THIS* IS WHERE WE CAME IN! A LONELY, DEFEATED DONALD, WANDERING THE STREETS OF VOGUE LIKE A VAGRANT...
MAN, I'VE GOT *PROBLEMS!*
I NEED TO FIND THAT LADIEN WHO STOLE MY PENDANT! BUT HOW DO I GET MY BEARINGS?
HALT, FASHION CRIMINAL!

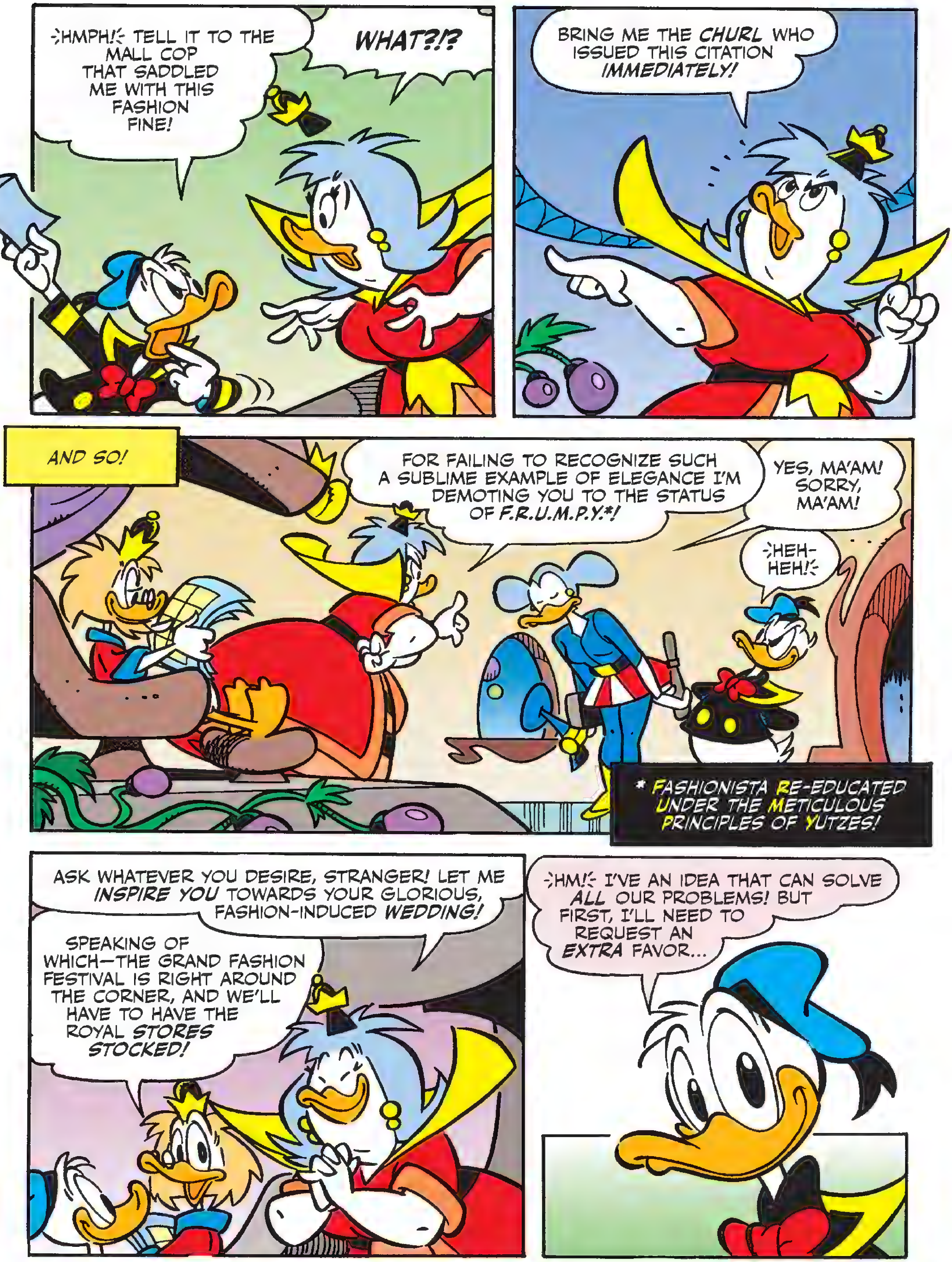

'SUP, MISS? DID I ROLL THROUGH A RED LIGHT?
PRETTY CHEEKY FOR A GUY WHO LOOKS LIKE HE SLITHERED OUT OF A PREHISTORIC BARGAIN BIN!
YOU, "SIR," ARE A FASHION DISASTER— AND IN *DIRECT* VIOLATION OF THE *ELEGANCE CODE!*
GREAT. TICKETED BY THE INTERSTELLAR FASHION POLICE. *JUST. PEACHY.*
STANK
ALTHOUGH— I GOTTA ADMIT, THE "MALIENS" OF VOGUE PROBABLY HAVE IT EASY!

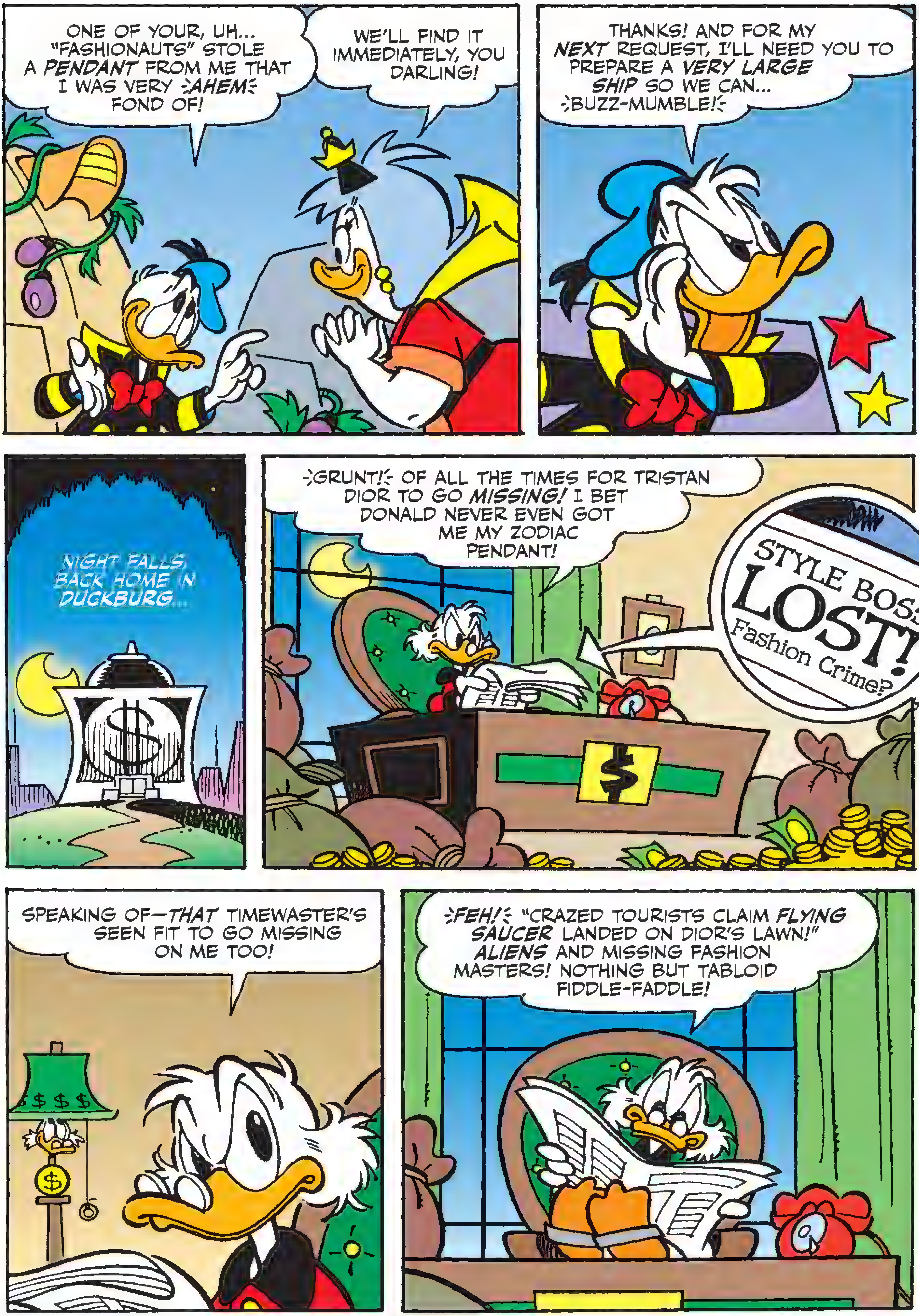

STILL, IT'S PROBABLY FOR THE BEST THAT DAISY AND HER SNOOTY SOCIAL CLUB NEVER KNOW OF THIS PLANET'S EXISTENCE.
-SIGH- *DAISY*... MY LADY. I MAY NEVER SEE HER AGAIN.
WHAT'LL I DO WITHOUT THAT SWEET VOICE OF HERS—
UGLY! HORRIBLE!! RIDICULOUS!!!
WAK!
I'VE GOT *OTHER* ADJECTIVES—BUT NOTHING REMOTELY *FLATTERING*, I ASSURE YOU!
QUEEN GLAMDOZER, ON EARTH THIS OUTFIT'S WON DOZENS OF AWARDS!

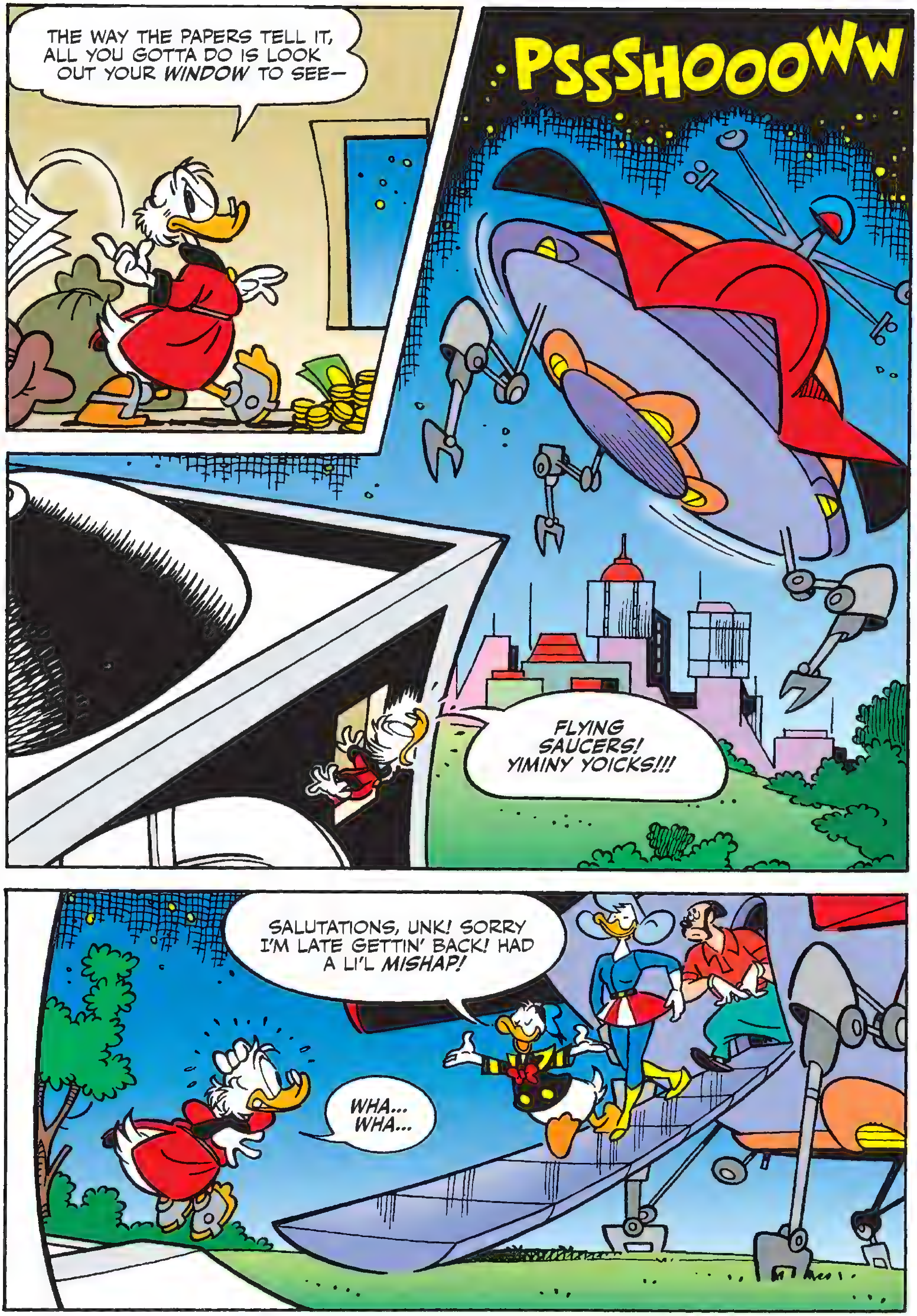

YOU'RE NOT ON EARTH, YOU SHOW-OFF PLUS! YOU'RE ON VOGUE, WORLD OF ELEGANCE! WHAT LOOKS GOOD ON YOUR PLANET LOOKS AWFUL ON OURS!!!
WHY DID I THINK YOU WERE A GENIUS? THIS IS THE TENTH UNACCEPTABLE MODEL YOU'VE PRODUCED!
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, KING WALDO?
WALDO, STOP READING COMIC BOOKS WHEN I'M TALKING TO YOU!
SNATCH!
OH, ME! OH, MY!... I NEVER REMEMBER TO REMOVE THESE EAR PLUGS!
MY HUSBAND NEEDS A SUIT THAT'S YOUTHFUL, BUT FOR ALL AGES! ORIGINAL, BUT CLASSIC! SPORTY, BUT RELAXED! HOMELY, BUT OUTGOING! ET CETERA, ET CETERA—

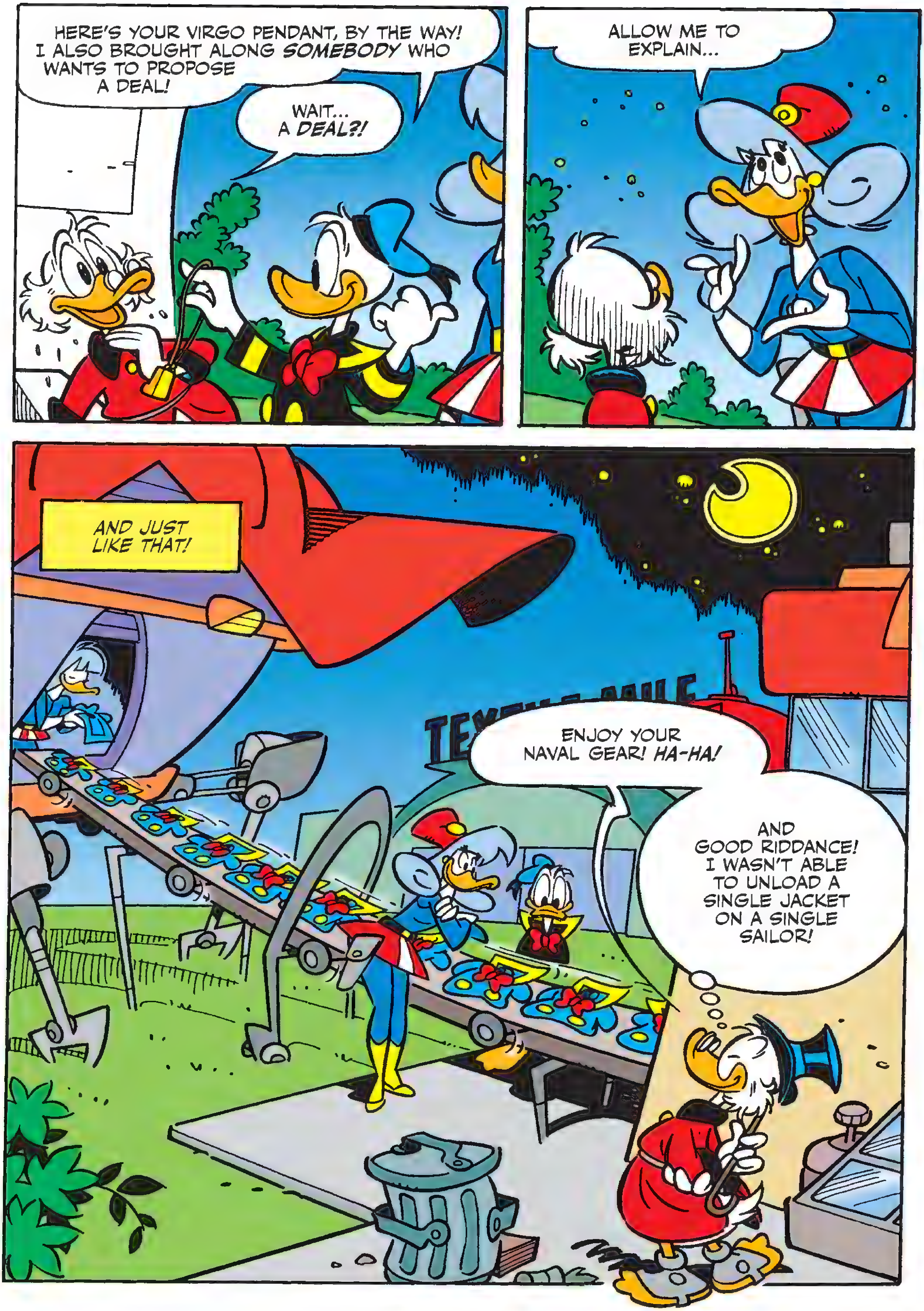

THIS IS VERY SIMPLE! MY IDEAS ARE CLEAR!
YES... CLEARLY NUTS!
NOW I'LL SEE TWO MORE MODELS! CHOP-CHOP! POST-HASTE!
ER... WELL, THIS DESIGN WAS INSPIRED BY YOUR RATHER "ECLECTIC" METROPOLIS!
AMONG EARTH'S YOUNG PEOPLE, THIS PARTICULAR STYLE IS—
NO, NO, NO, NO, NO!!!!
OKAY... THEN HOW ABOUT THIS ENSEMBLE? MY FINAL PIECE IS—
AAAUGH!!!

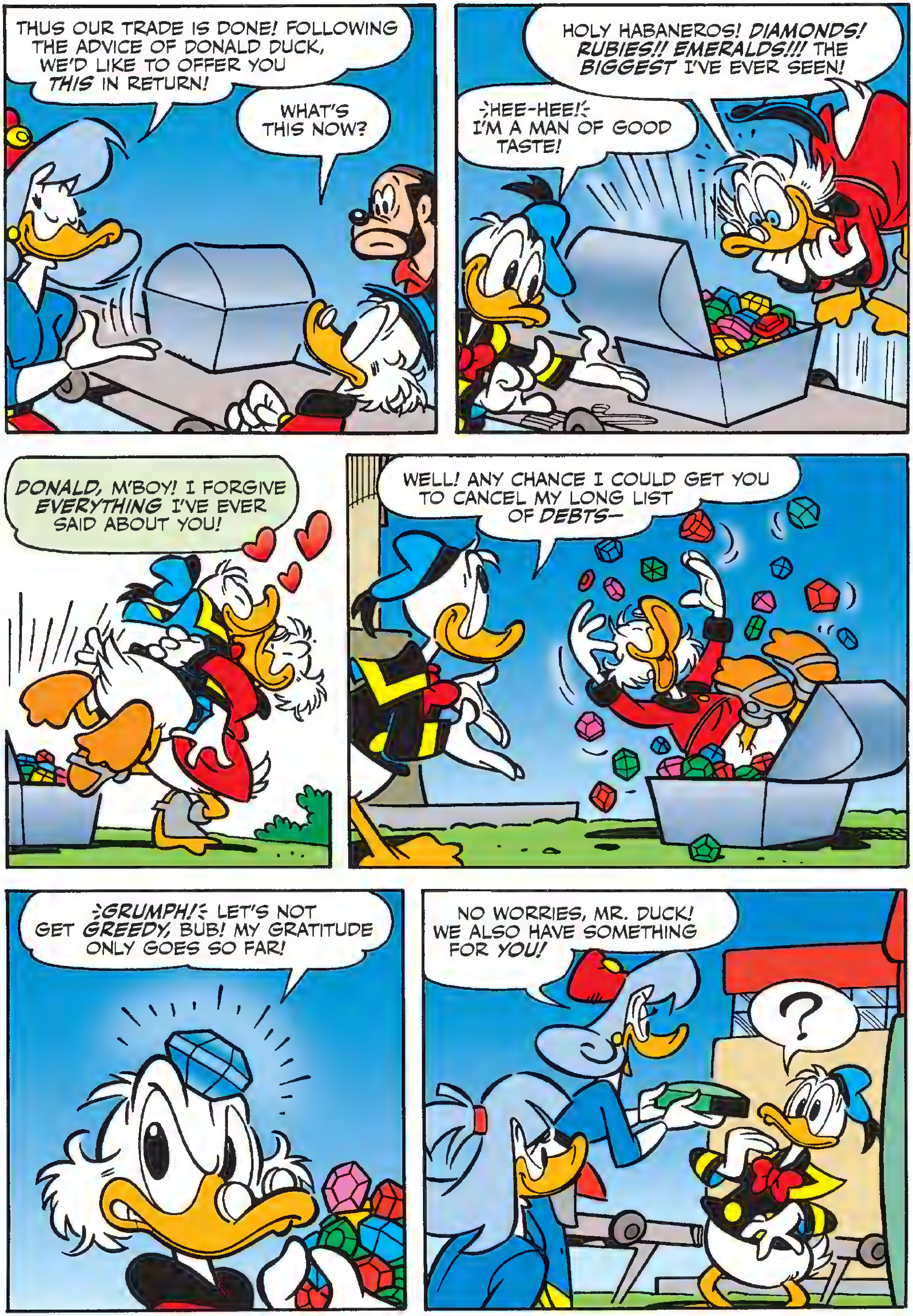

GET OUT!!!
PUNT
G'WAN, NOW! SPYING'S AGAINST THE LAW!
PARDON, QUEEN GLAMDOZER! I DISCOVERED THIS HIDEOUS LOOKEE-LOO CROUCHED OUTSIDE OUR WINDOW!
HM? WHA—
OH... OH MY! YOUR OUTFIT! IT'S...
LOOK, LADY...
STUPENDOUS! THIS IS WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR!
WELL! I ALWAYS WAS A MODEST TRENDSETTER!
⁝SMACK!⁝ MY HERO! YOUR GAUCHE COUTURE WILL SIGNAL THIS YEAR'S MALIEN STYLE!

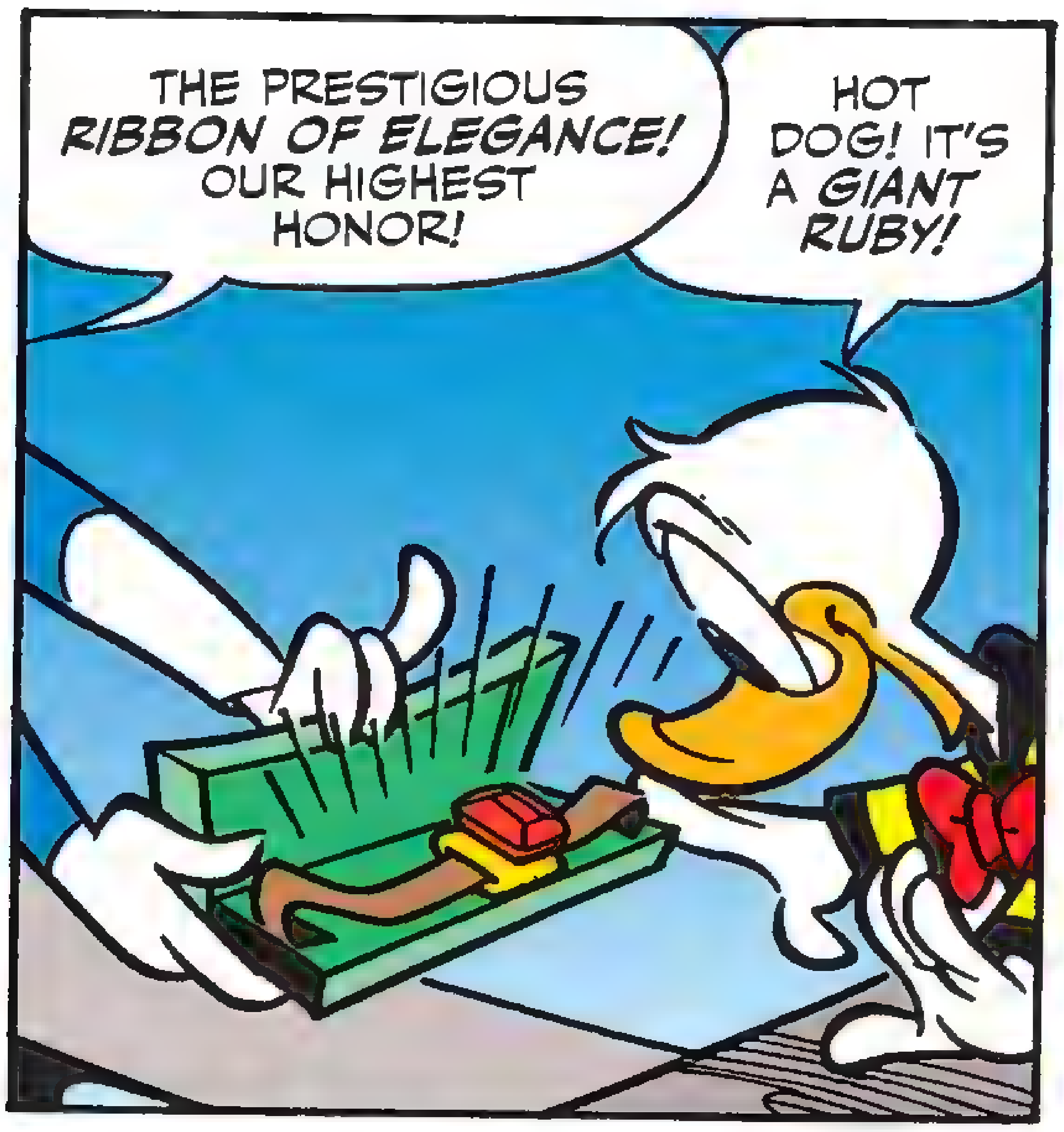

HMPH! TELL IT TO THE MALL COP THAT SADDLED ME WITH THIS FASHION FINE!
WHAT?!?
BRING ME THE CHURL WHO ISSUED THIS CITATION IMMEDIATELY!
AND SO!
FOR FAILING TO RECOGNIZE SUCH A SUBLIME EXAMPLE OF ELEGANCE I'M DEMOTING YOU TO THE STATUS OF F.R.U.M.P.Y.*!
YES, MA'AM! SORRY, MA'AM!
HEH-HEH!
* FASHIONISTA RE-EDUCATED UNDER THE METICULOUS PRINCIPLES OF YUTZES!
ASK WHATEVER YOU DESIRE, STRANGER! LET ME INSPIRE YOU TOWARDS YOUR GLORIOUS, FASHION-INDUCED WEDDING!
SPEAKING OF WHICH—THE GRAND FASHION FESTIVAL IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER, AND WE'LL HAVE TO HAVE THE ROYAL STORES STOCKED!
HM! I'VE AN IDEA THAT CAN SOLVE ALL OUR PROBLEMS! BUT FIRST, I'LL NEED TO REQUEST AN EXTRA FAVOR...

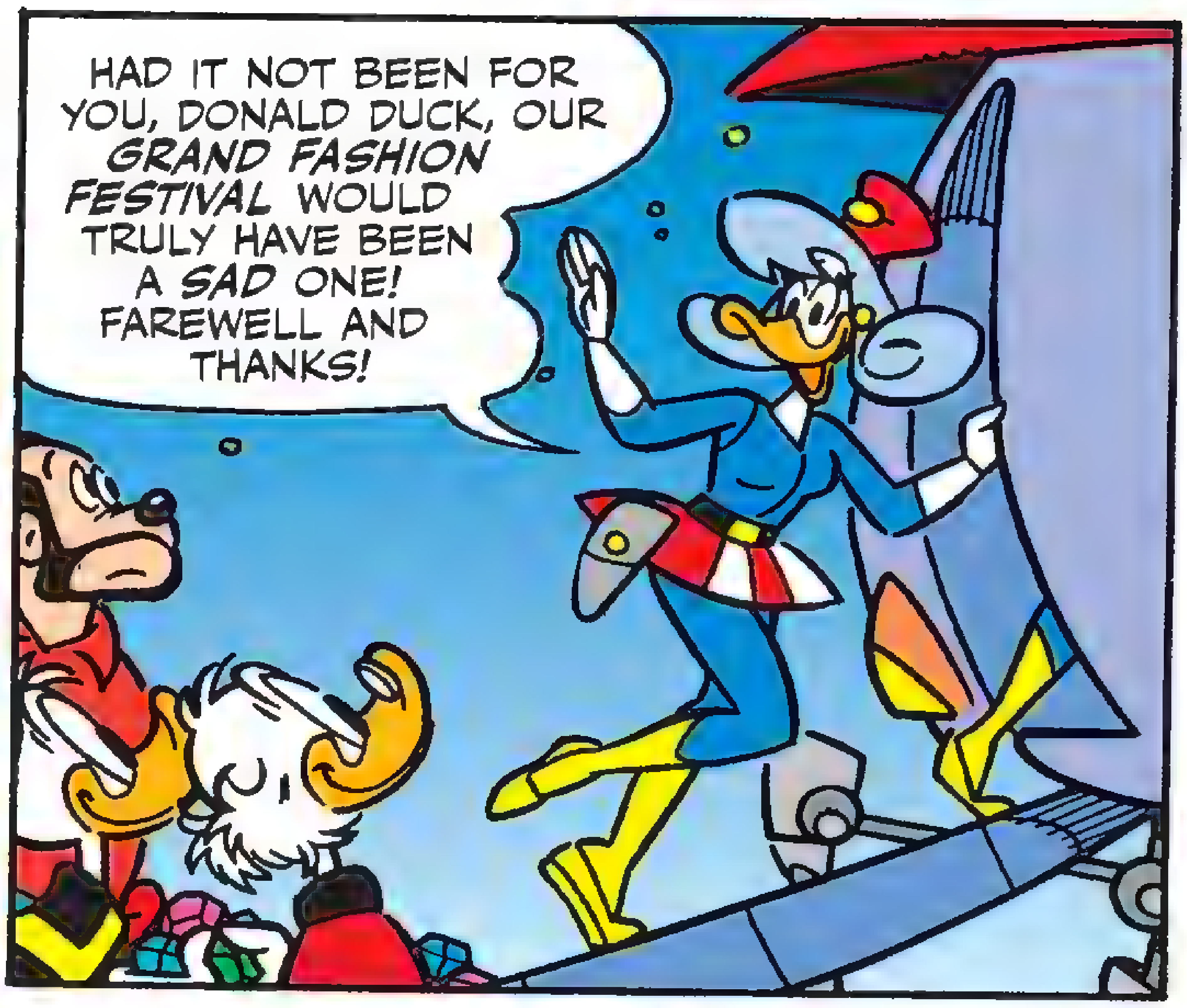

ONE OF YOUR, UH... "FASHIONAUTS" STOLE A PENDANT FROM ME THAT I WAS VERY ⁏AHEM⁏ FOND OF!
WE'LL FIND IT IMMEDIATELY, YOU DARLING!
THANKS! AND FOR MY NEXT REQUEST, I'LL NEED YOU TO PREPARE A VERY LARGE SHIP SO WE CAN... ⁏BUZZ-MUMBLE!⁏
NIGHT FALLS BACK HOME IN DUCKBURG...
⁏GRUNT!⁏ OF ALL THE TIMES FOR TRISTAN DIOR TO GO MISSING! I BET DONALD NEVER EVEN GOT ME MY ZODIAC PENDANT!
STYLE BOSS LOST! Fashion Crime?
SPEAKING OF—THAT TIMEWASTER'S SEEN FIT TO GO MISSING ON ME TOO!
$ $ $
⁏FEH!⁏ "CRAZED TOURISTS CLAIM FLYING SAUCER LANDED ON DIOR'S LAWN!" ALIENS AND MISSING FASHION MASTERS! NOTHING BUT TABLOID FIDDLE-FADDLE!

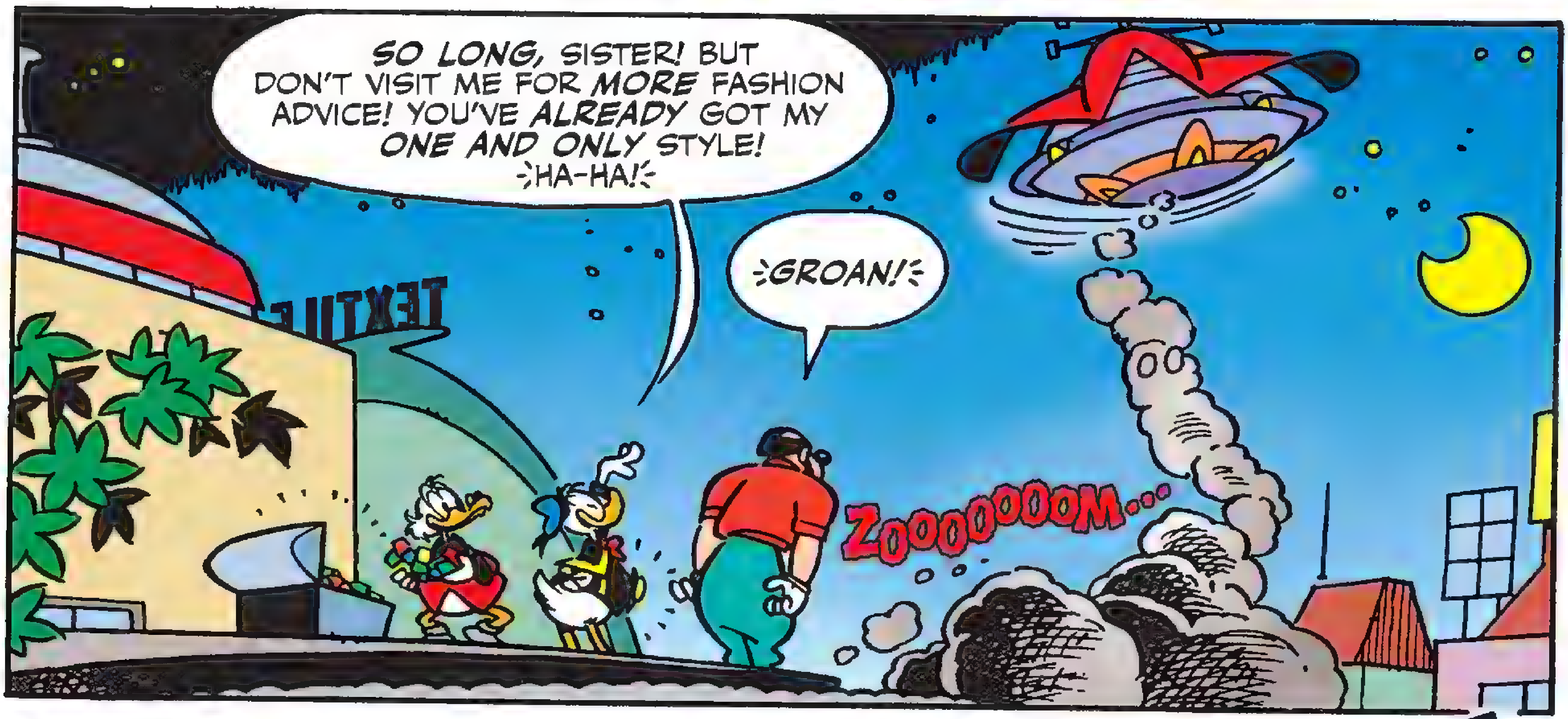

THE WAY THE PAPERS TELL IT, ALL YOU GOTTA DO IS LOOK OUT YOUR *WINDOW* TO SEE—
PSSSHOOOWW
FLYING SAUCERS! YIMINY YOICKS!!!
SALUTATIONS, UNK! SORRY I'M LATE GETTIN' BACK! HAD A LI'L *MISHAP!*
WHA... WHA...

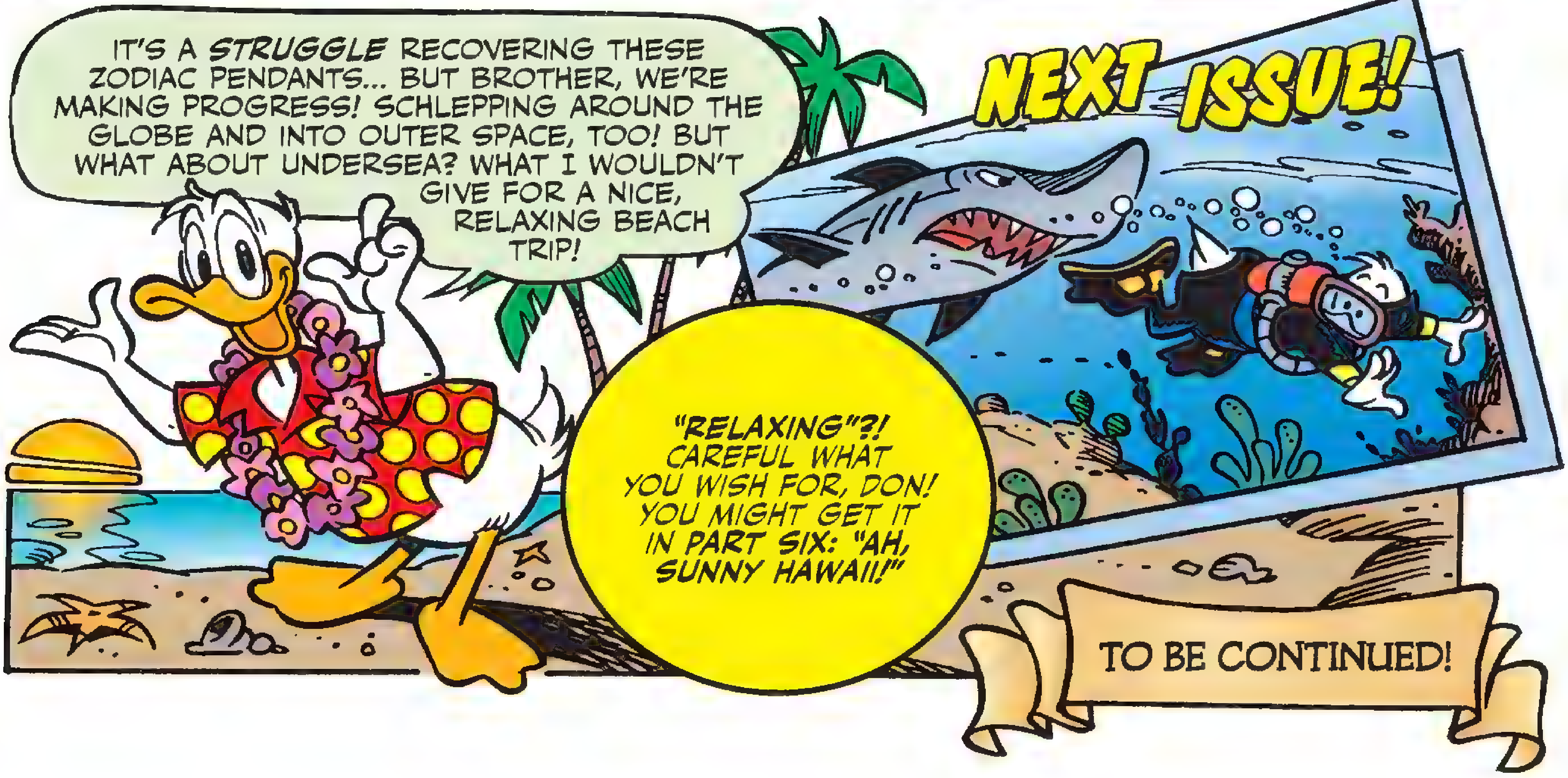

HERE'S YOUR VIRGO PENDANT, BY THE WAY! I ALSO BROUGHT ALONG *SOMEBODY* WHO WANTS TO PROPOSE A DEAL!
WAIT... A *DEAL?!*
ALLOW ME TO EXPLAIN...
AND JUST LIKE THAT!
ENJOY YOUR NAVAL GEAR! *HA-HA!*
AND GOOD RIDDANCE! I WASN'T ABLE TO UNLOAD A SINGLE JACKET ON A SINGLE SAILOR!


THUS OUR TRADE IS DONE! FOLLOWING THE ADVICE OF DONALD DUCK, WE'D LIKE TO OFFER YOU *THIS* IN RETURN!
WHAT'S THIS NOW?
HOLY HABANEROS! *DIAMONDS! RUBIES!! EMERALDS!!!* THE *BIGGEST* I'VE EVER SEEN!
HEE-HEE! I'M A MAN OF GOOD TASTE!
DONALD, M'BOY! I FORGIVE *EVERYTHING* I'VE EVER SAID ABOUT YOU!
WELL! ANY CHANCE I COULD GET YOU TO CANCEL MY LONG LIST OF *DEBTS*—
GRUMPH! LET'S NOT GET *GREEDY,* BUB! MY GRATITUDE ONLY GOES SO FAR!
NO WORRIES, MR. DUCK! WE ALSO HAVE SOMETHING FOR *YOU!*
?


THE PRESTIGIOUS *RIBBON OF ELEGANCE!* OUR HIGHEST HONOR!
HOT DOG! IT'S A *GIANT RUBY!*


HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR YOU, DONALD DUCK, OUR *GRAND FASHION FESTIVAL* WOULD TRULY HAVE BEEN A *SAD* ONE! FAREWELL AND THANKS!

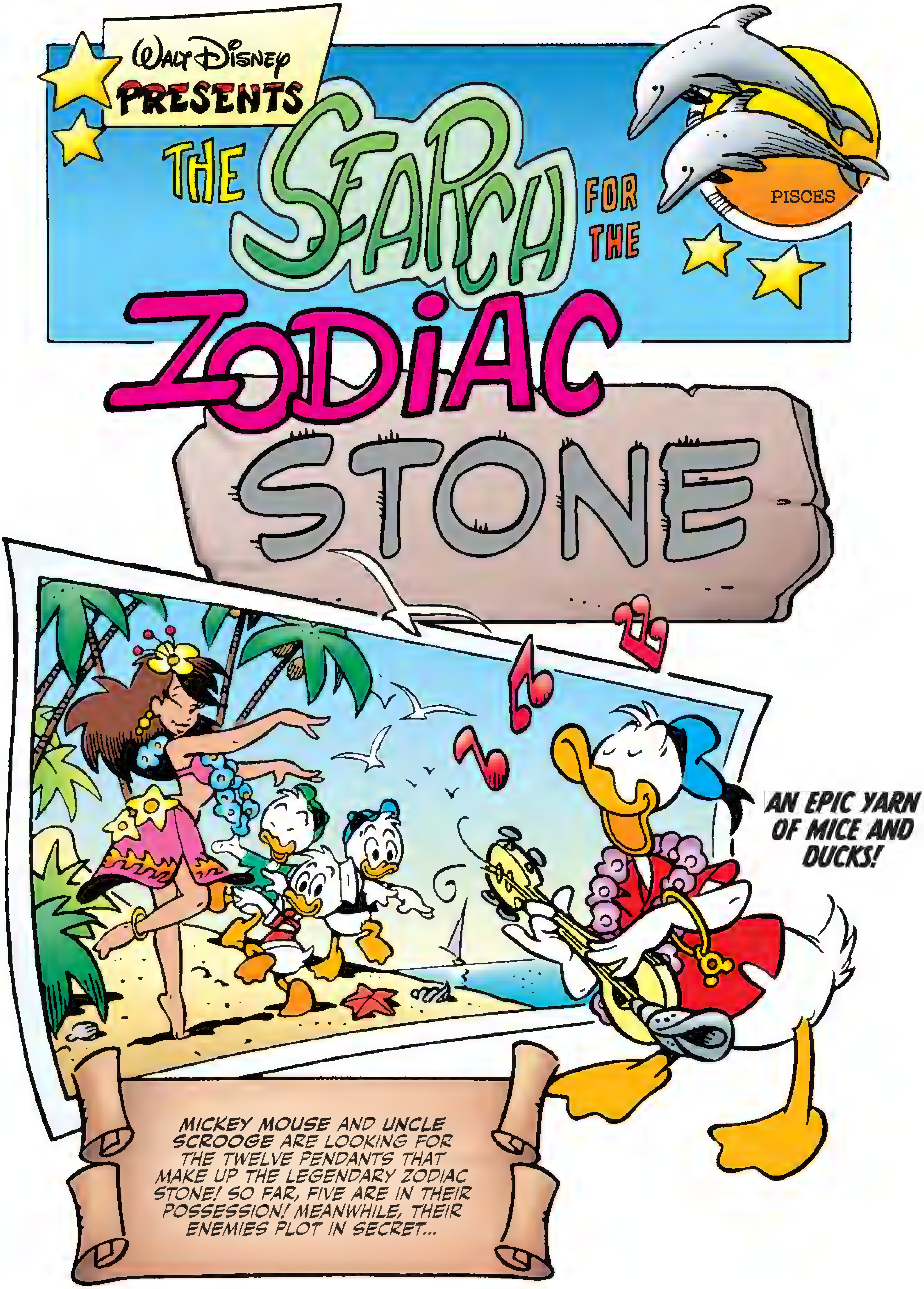

SO LONG, SISTER! BUT DON'T VISIT ME FOR *MORE* FASHION ADVICE! YOU'VE *ALREADY* GOT MY *ONE AND ONLY* STYLE! HA-HA!
GROAN!
ZOOOOOOOM...


IT'S A *STRUGGLE* RECOVERING THESE ZODIAC PENDANTS... BUT BROTHER, WE'RE MAKING PROGRESS! SCHLEPPING AROUND THE GLOBE AND INTO OUTER SPACE, TOO! BUT WHAT ABOUT UNDERSEA? WHAT I WOULDN'T GIVE FOR A NICE, RELAXING BEACH TRIP!
NEXT ISSUE!
"RELAXING"?! CAREFUL WHAT YOU WISH FOR, DON! YOU MIGHT GET IT IN PART SIX: "AH, SUNNY HAWAII!"
TO BE CONTINUED!

IT'S THUH LEO STONE!
LOCK, STOCK AND ELEPHANTINE BARREL!
I-I-I'M T-T-TRYIN'! B-BUT I C-C-CAN'T-T-T!!!
VROOO-OM
AAAH!!!
GLUB! WAK!!!
BOING

Walt Disney Presents

THE SEARCH FOR THE ZODIAC STONE


PISCES
AN EPIC YARN OF MICE AND DUCKS!
MICKEY MOUSE AND UNCLE SCROOGE ARE LOOKING FOR THE TWELVE PENDANTS THAT MAKE UP THE LEGENDARY ZODIAC STONE! SO FAR, FIVE ARE IN THEIR POSSESSION! MEANWHILE, THEIR ENEMIES PLOT IN SECRET...

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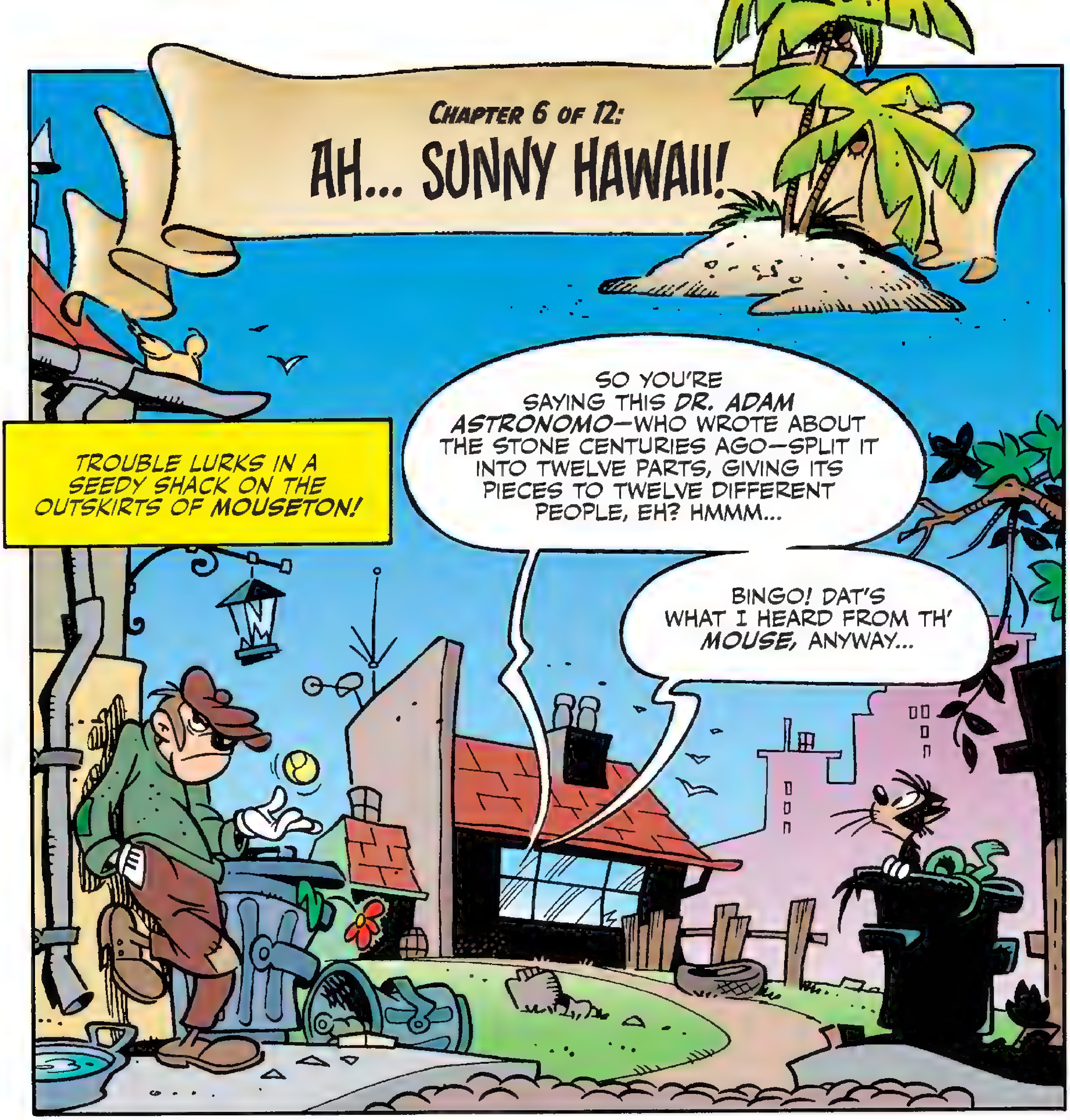
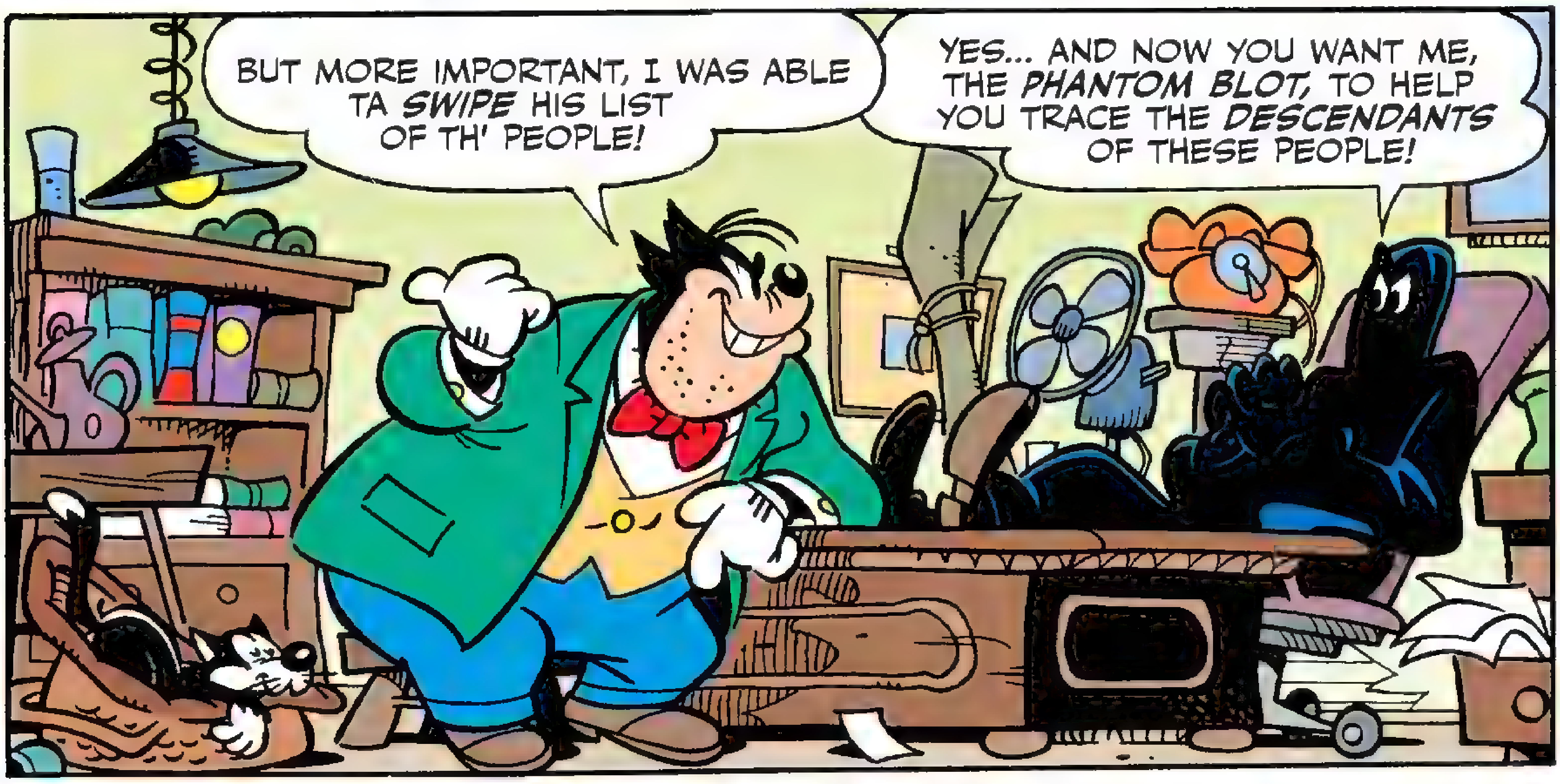
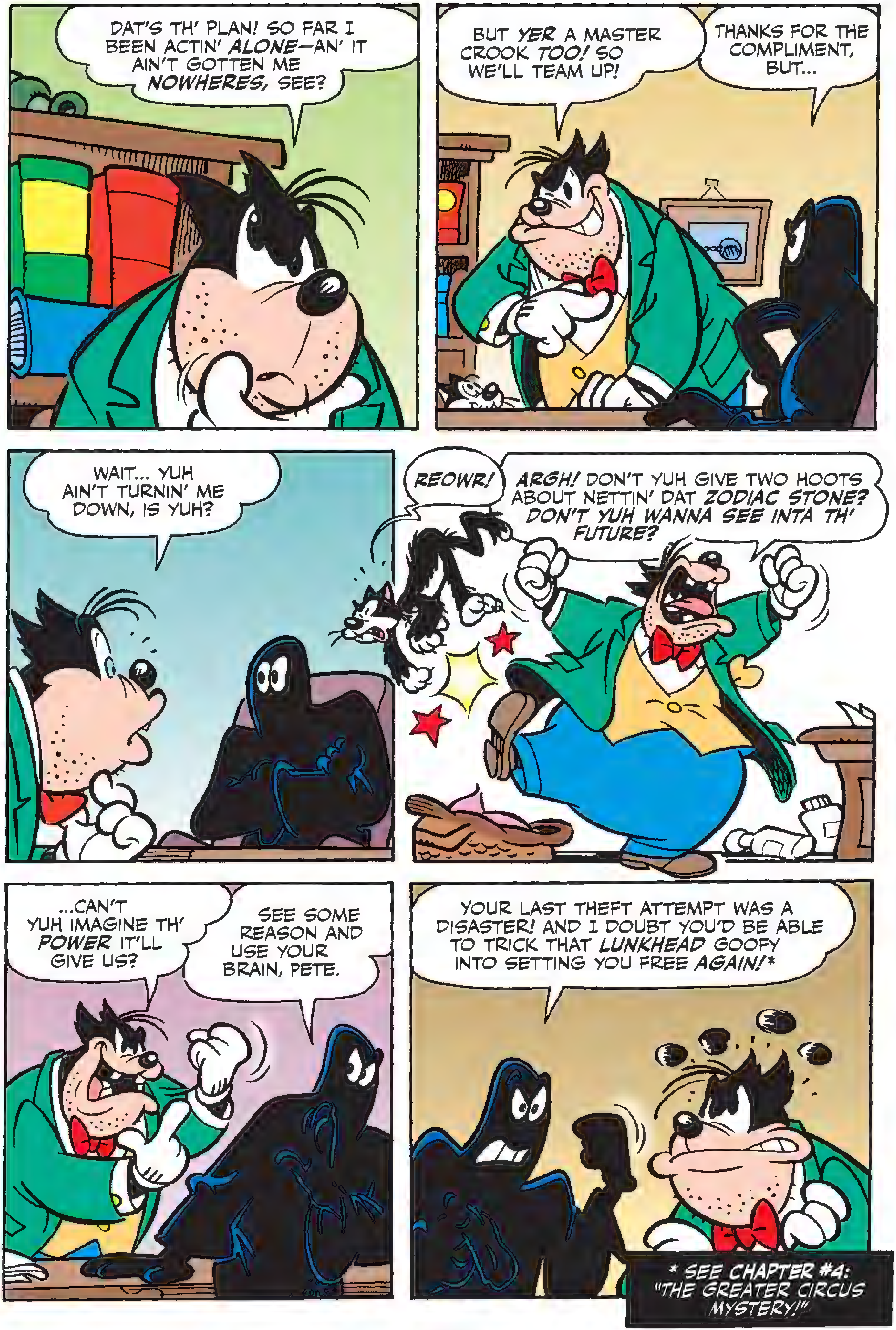
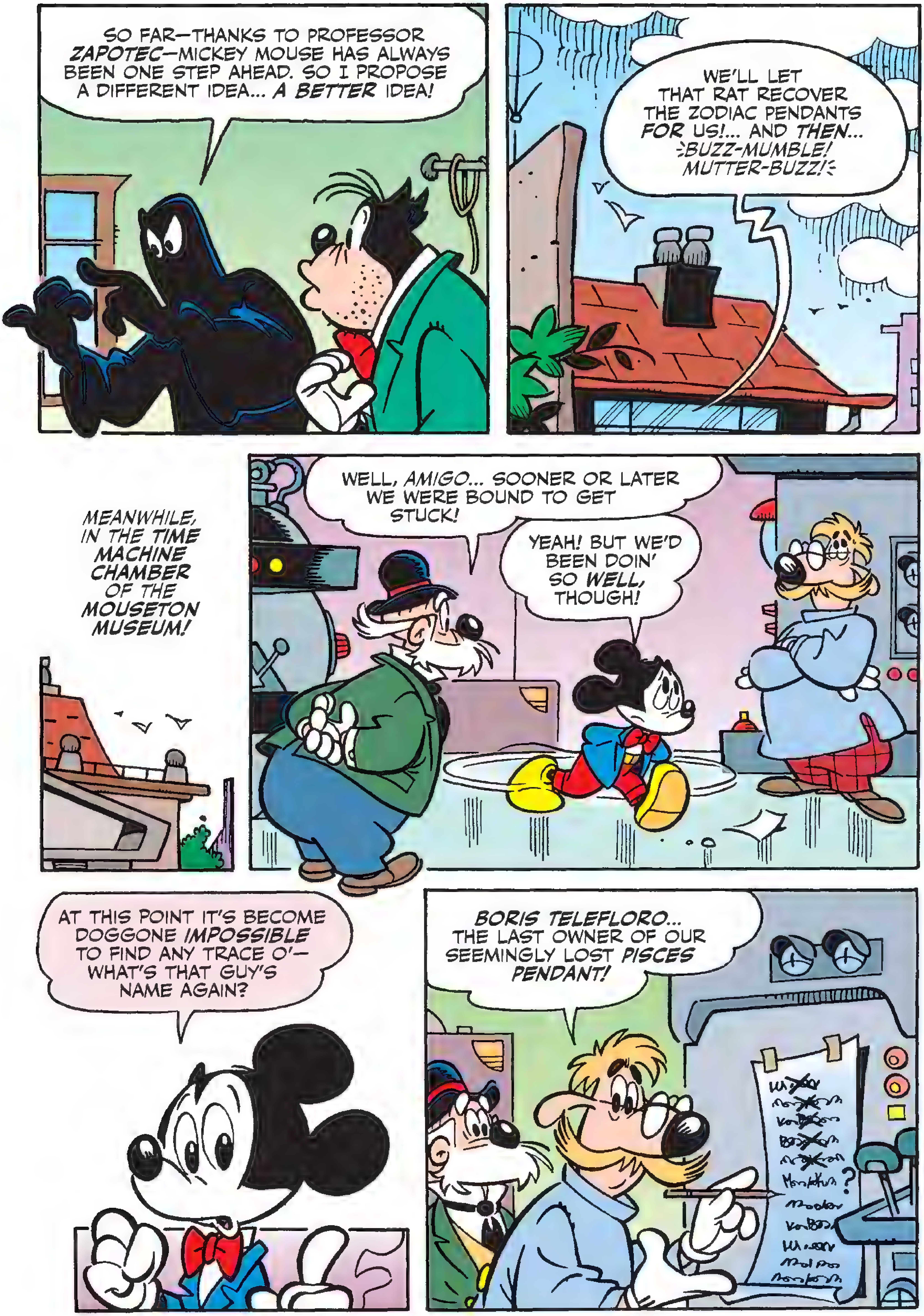
CHAPTER 6 OF 12:

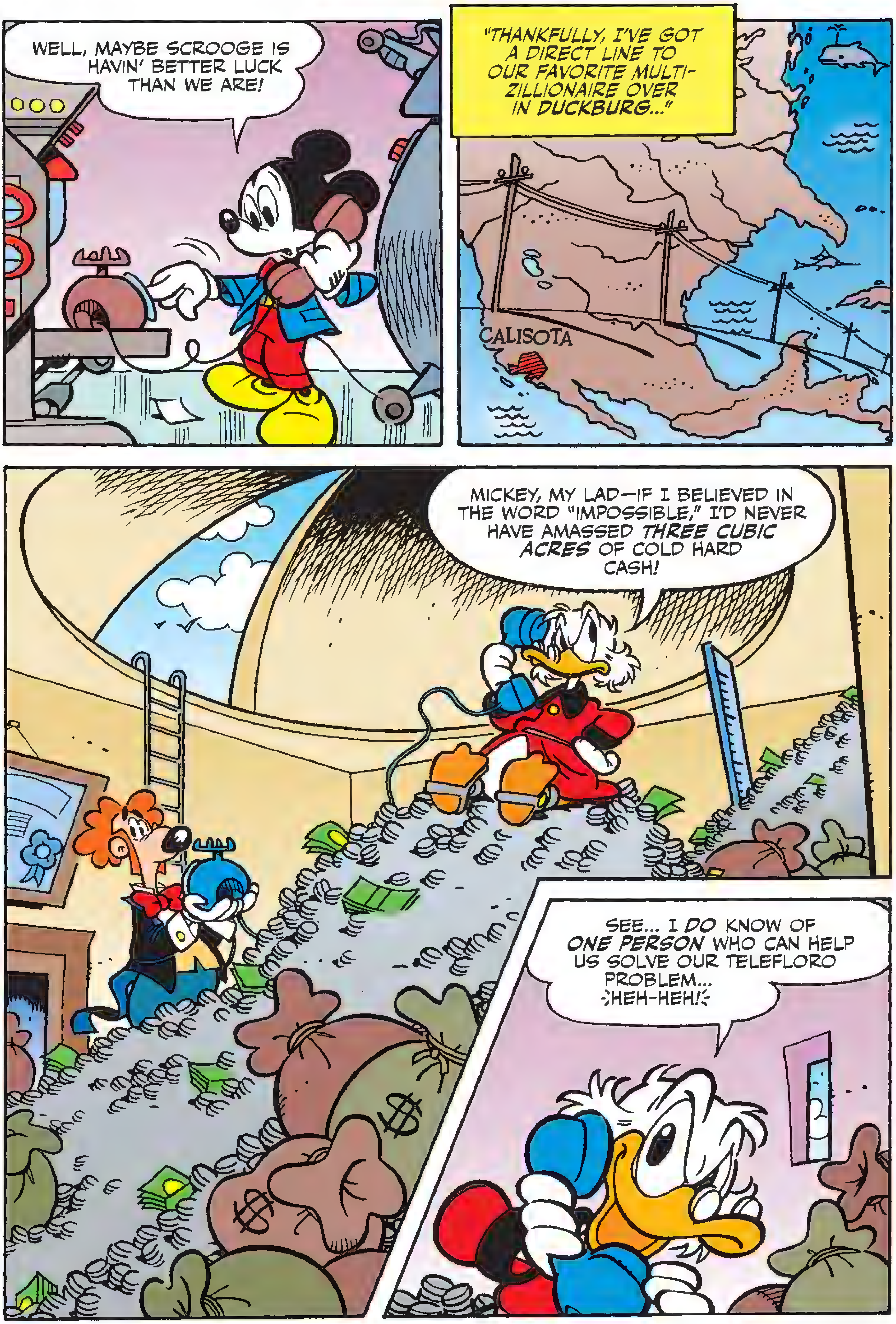
AH... SUNNY HAWAII!

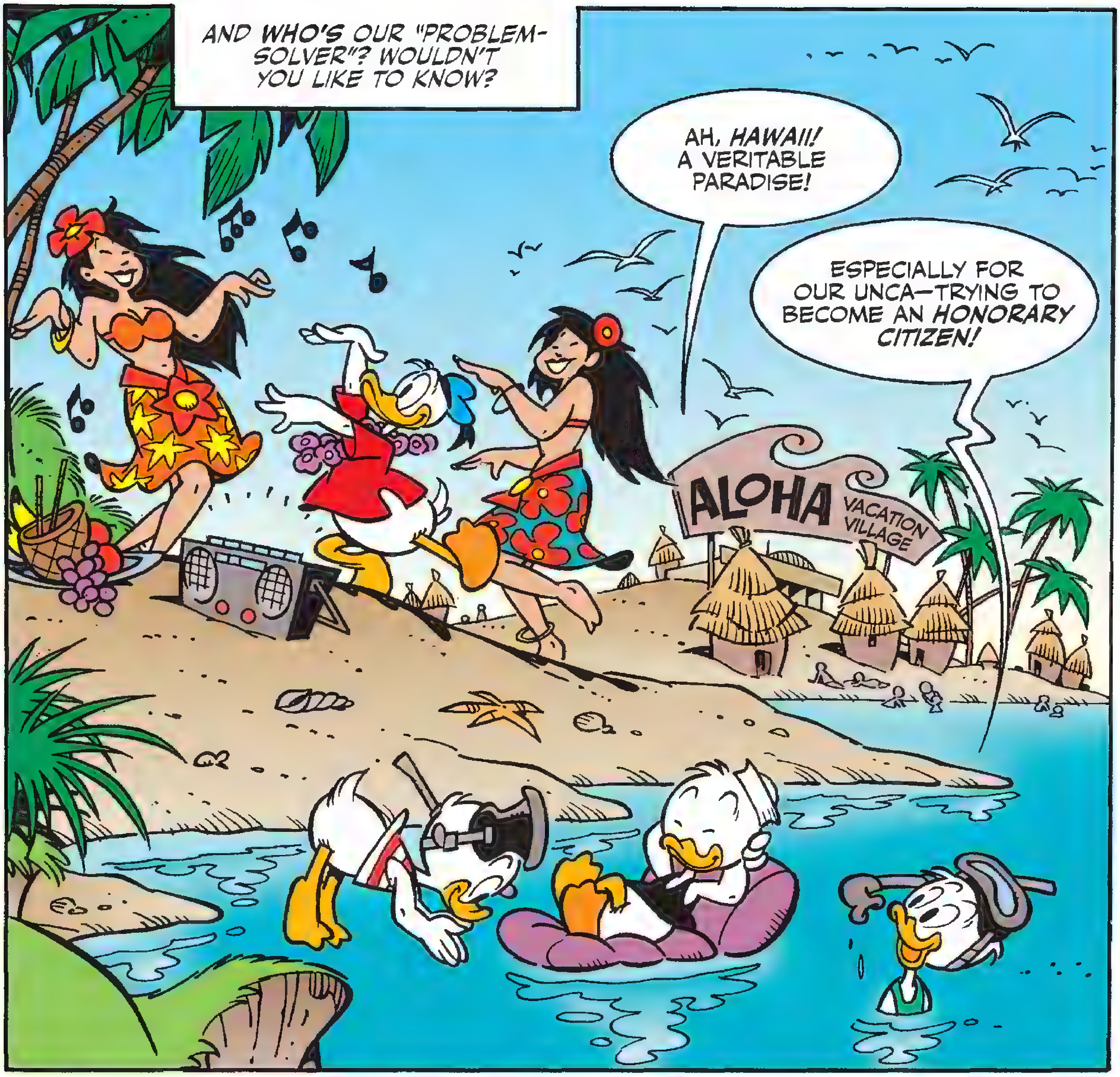

TROUBLE LURKS IN A SEEDY SHACK ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF *MOUSETON!*
SO YOU'RE SAYING THIS *DR. ADAM ASTRONOMO*—WHO WROTE ABOUT THE STONE CENTURIES AGO—SPLIT IT INTO TWELVE PARTS, GIVING ITS PIECES TO TWELVE DIFFERENT PEOPLE, EH? HMMM...
BINGO! DAT'S WHAT I HEARD FROM TH' *MOUSE,* ANYWAY...

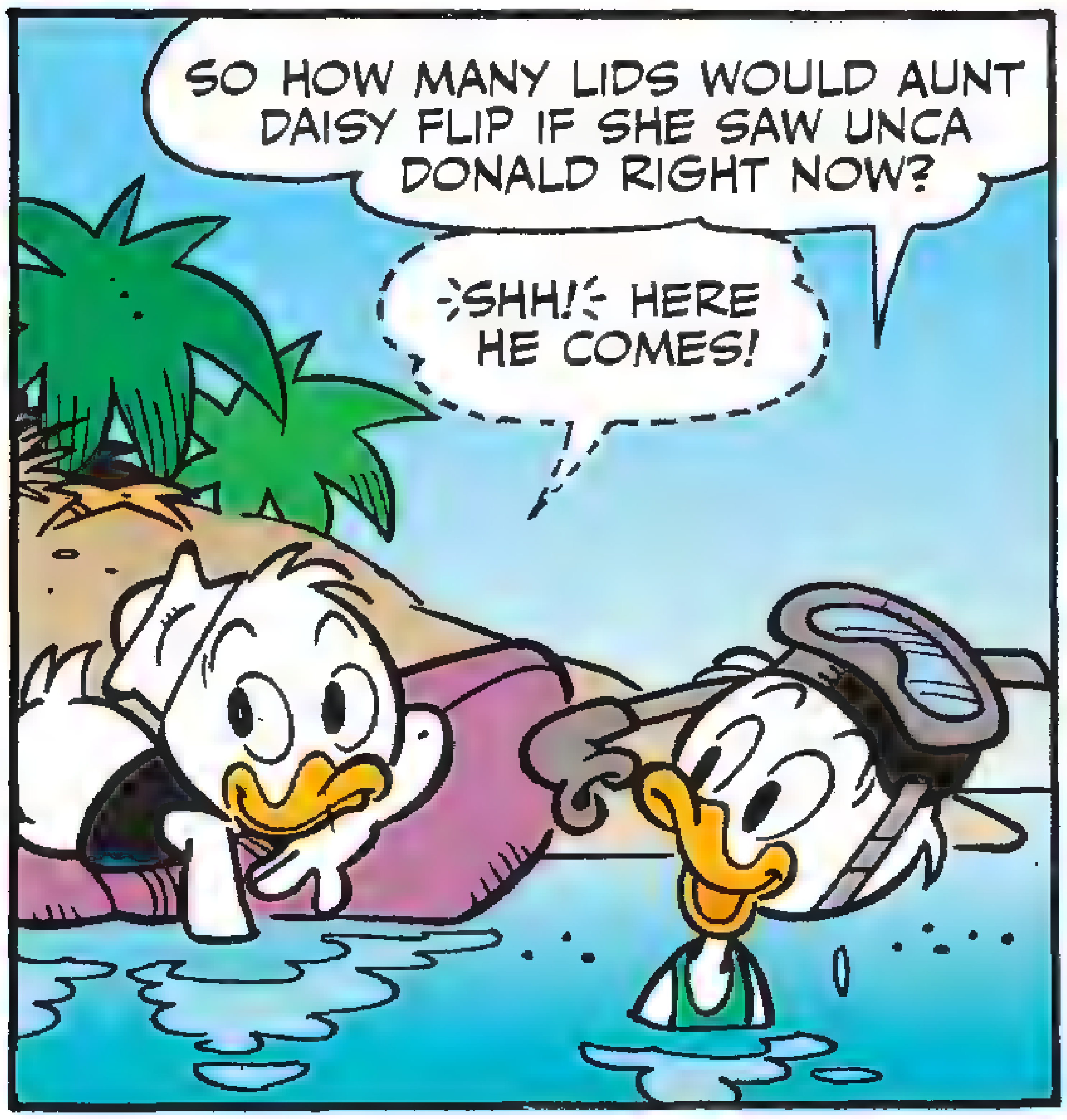

BUT MORE IMPORTANT, I WAS ABLE TA *SWIPE* HIS LIST OF TH' PEOPLE!
YES... AND NOW YOU WANT ME, THE *PHANTOM BLOT,* TO HELP YOU TRACE THE *DESCENDANTS* OF THESE PEOPLE!

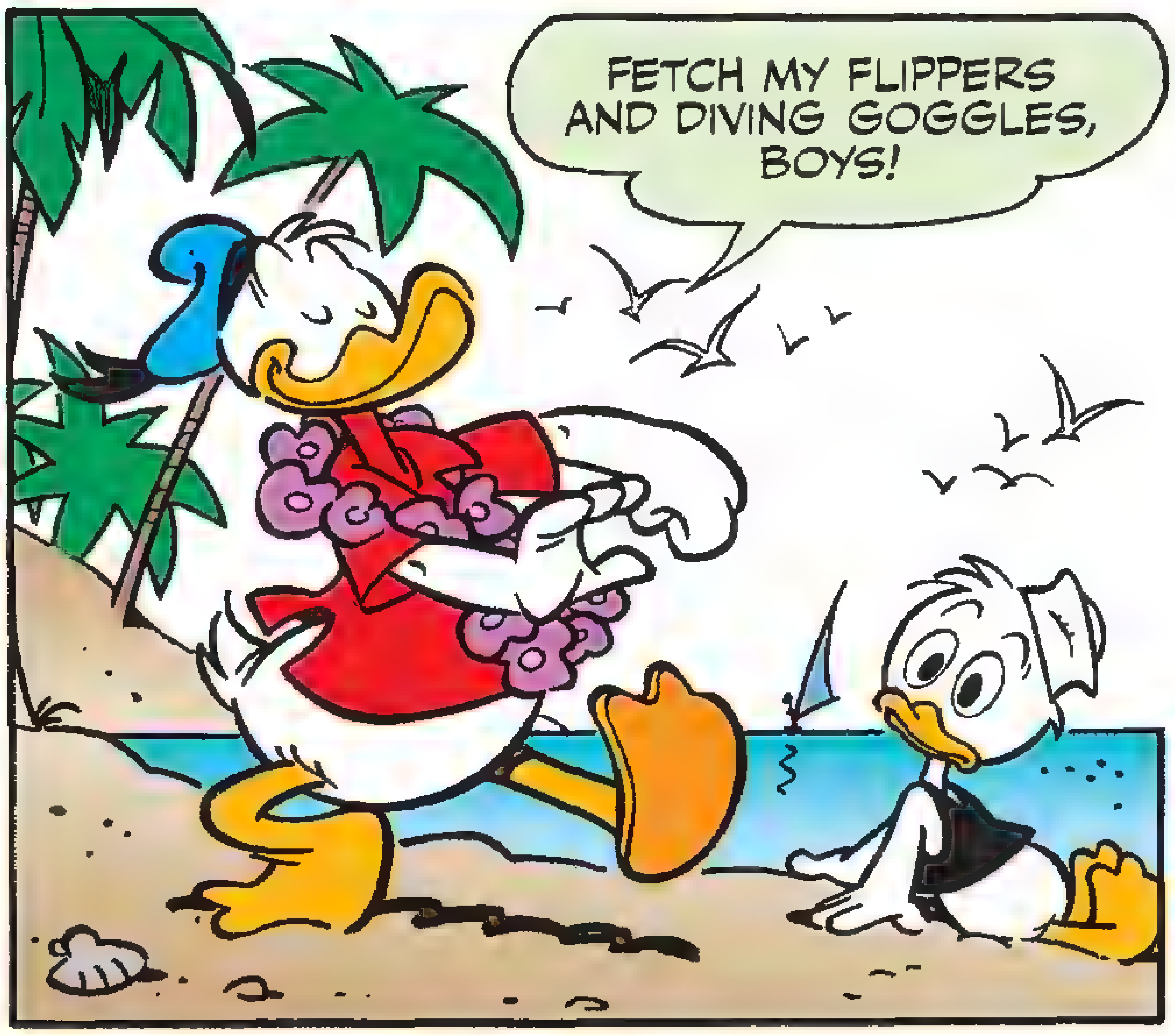

DAT'S TH' PLAN! SO FAR I BEEN ACTIN' *ALONE*—AN' IT AIN'T GOTTEN ME *NOWHERES,* SEE?
BUT *YER* A MASTER CROOK *TOO!* SO WE'LL TEAM UP!
THANKS FOR THE COMPLIMENT, BUT...
WAIT... YUH AIN'T TURNIN' ME DOWN, IS YUH?
REOWR!
ARGH! DON'T YUH GIVE TWO HOOTS ABOUT NETTIN' DAT *ZODIAC STONE? DON'T YUH WANNA SEE INTA TH' FUTURE?*
...CAN'T YUH IMAGINE TH' *POWER* IT'LL GIVE US?
SEE SOME REASON AND USE YOUR BRAIN, PETE.
YOUR LAST THEFT ATTEMPT WAS A DISASTER! AND I DOUBT YOU'D BE ABLE TO TRICK THAT *LUNKHEAD* GOOFY INTO SETTING YOU FREE *AGAIN!**
* SEE CHAPTER #4: "THE GREATER CIRCUS MYSTERY!"

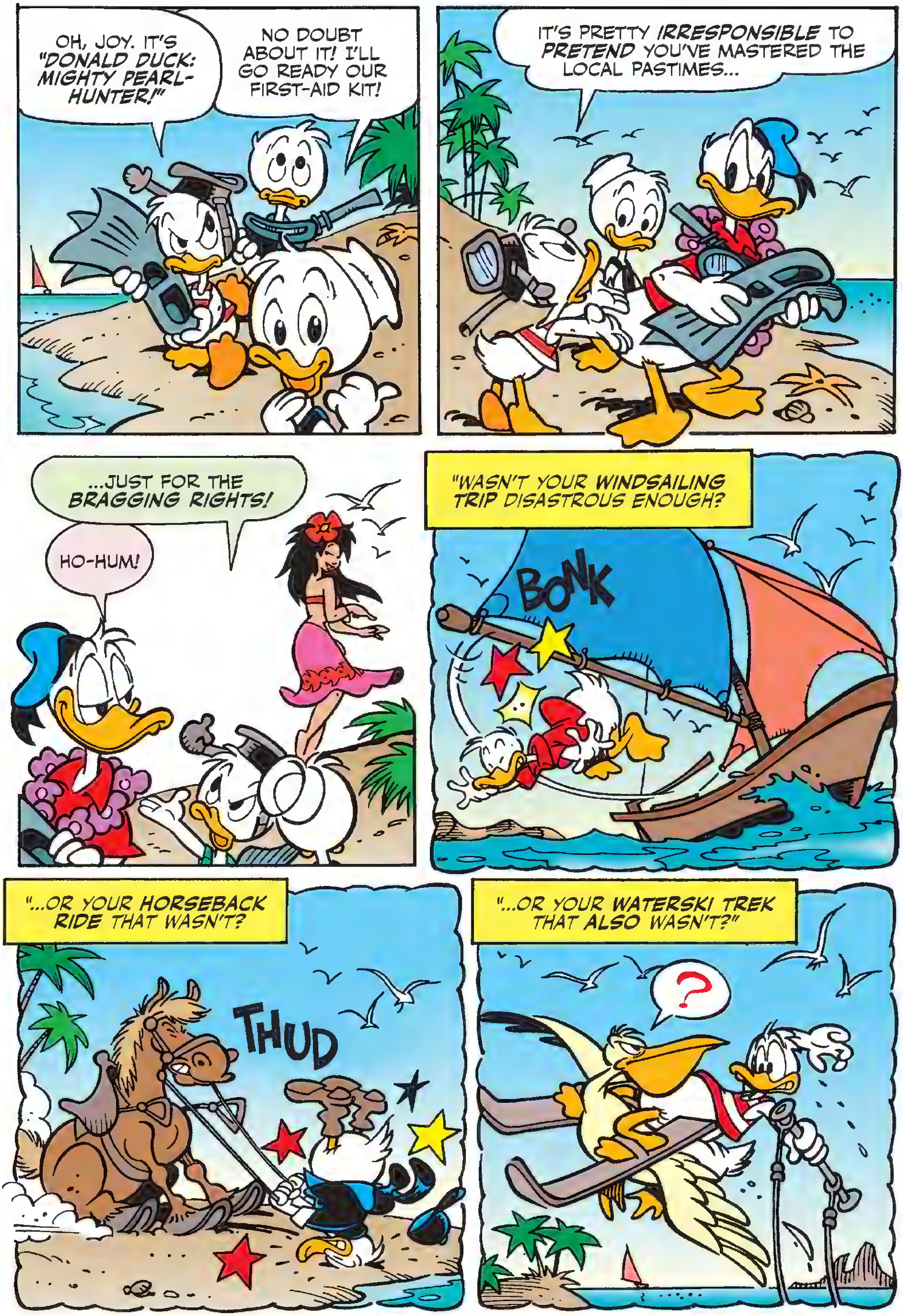

SO FAR—THANKS TO PROFESSOR *ZAPOTEC*—MICKEY MOUSE HAS ALWAYS BEEN ONE STEP AHEAD. SO I PROPOSE A DIFFERENT IDEA... A *BETTER* IDEA!
WE'LL LET THAT RAT RECOVER THE ZODIAC PENDANTS *FOR* US!... AND *THEN*... *BUZZ-MUMBLE! MUTTER-BUZZ!*
MEANWHILE, IN THE **TIME MACHINE CHAMBER** *OF THE* **MOUSETON MUSEUM!**
WELL, *AMIGO*... SOONER OR LATER WE WERE BOUND TO GET STUCK!
YEAH! BUT WE'D BEEN DOIN' SO *WELL*, THOUGH!
AT THIS POINT IT'S BECOME DOGGONE *IMPOSSIBLE* TO FIND ANY TRACE O'— WHAT'S THAT GUY'S NAME AGAIN?
BORIS TELEFLORO... THE LAST OWNER OF OUR SEEMINGLY LOST *PISCES PENDANT!*

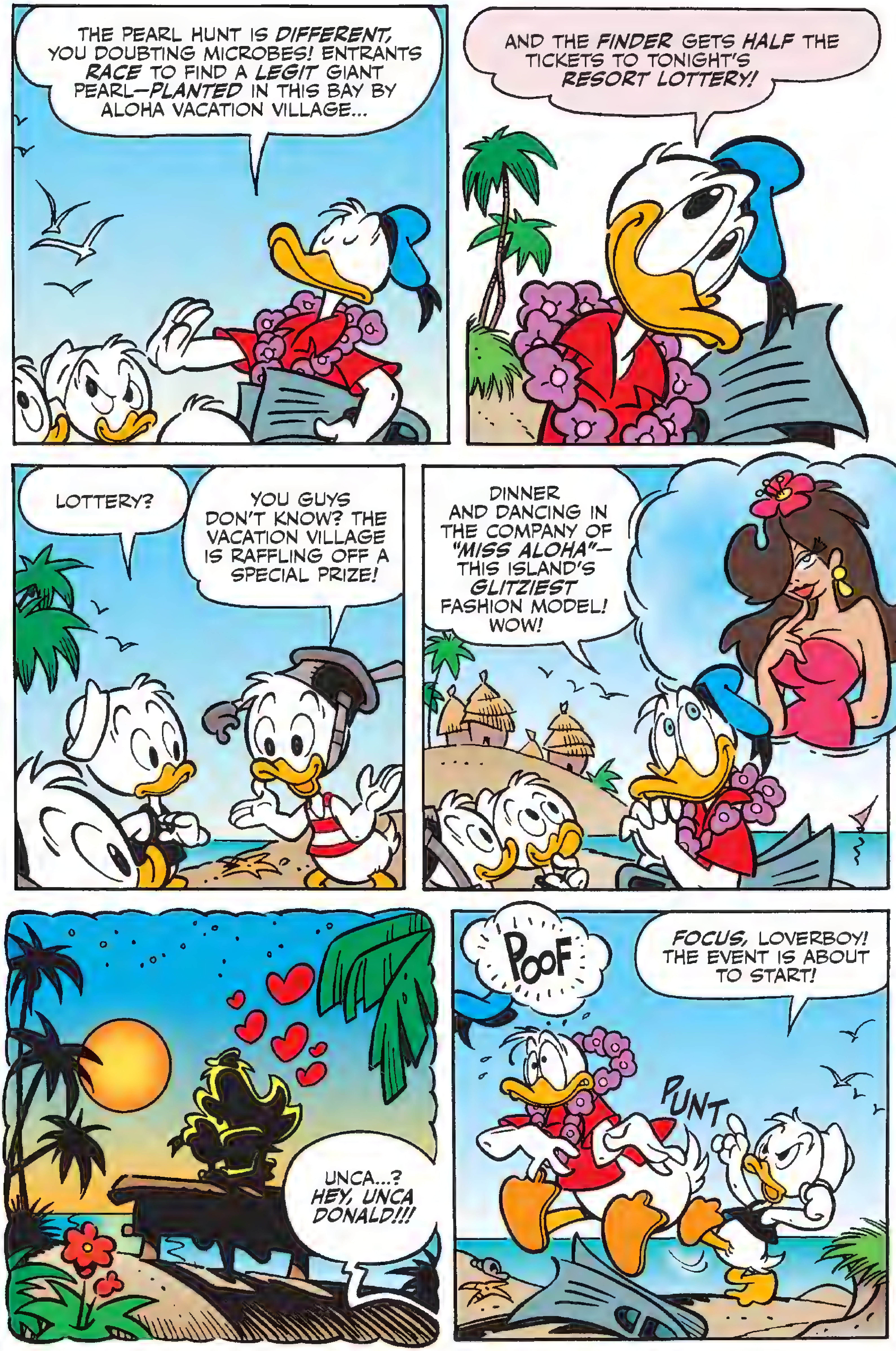

WELL, MAYBE SCROOGE IS HAVIN' BETTER LUCK THAN WE ARE!
"THANKFULLY, I'VE GOT A DIRECT LINE TO OUR FAVORITE MULTI-ZILLIONAIRE OVER IN DUCKBURG..."
CALISOTA
MICKEY, MY LAD—IF I BELIEVED IN THE WORD "IMPOSSIBLE," I'D NEVER HAVE AMASSED *THREE CUBIC ACRES* OF COLD HARD CASH!
SEE... I *DO* KNOW OF *ONE PERSON* WHO CAN HELP US SOLVE OUR TELEFLORO PROBLEM... HEH-HEH!

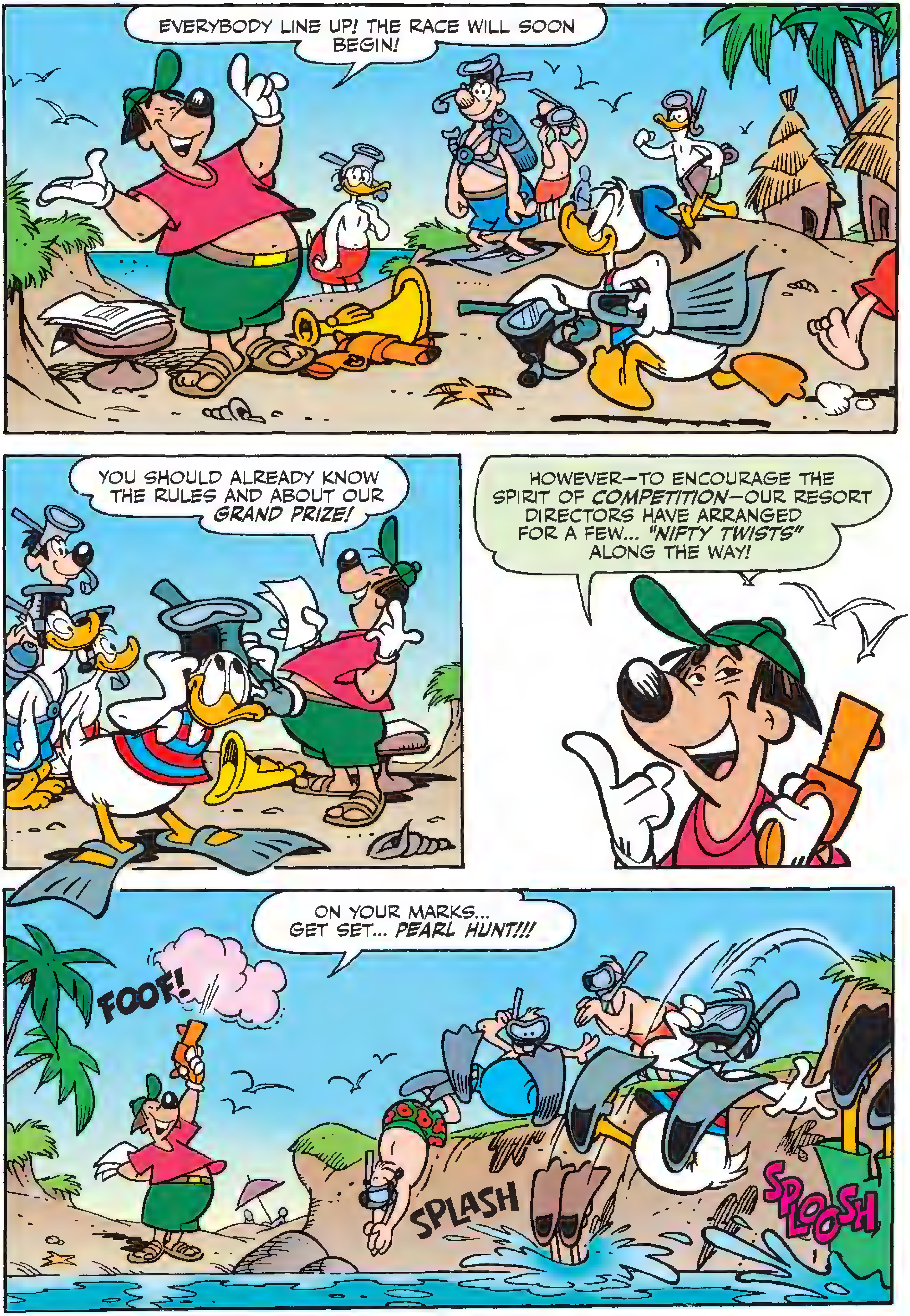

AND WHO'S OUR "PROBLEM-SOLVER"? WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO KNOW?
AH, HAWAII! A VERITABLE PARADISE!
ESPECIALLY FOR OUR UNCA—TRYING TO BECOME AN HONORARY CITIZEN!
ALOHA
VACATION VILLAGE

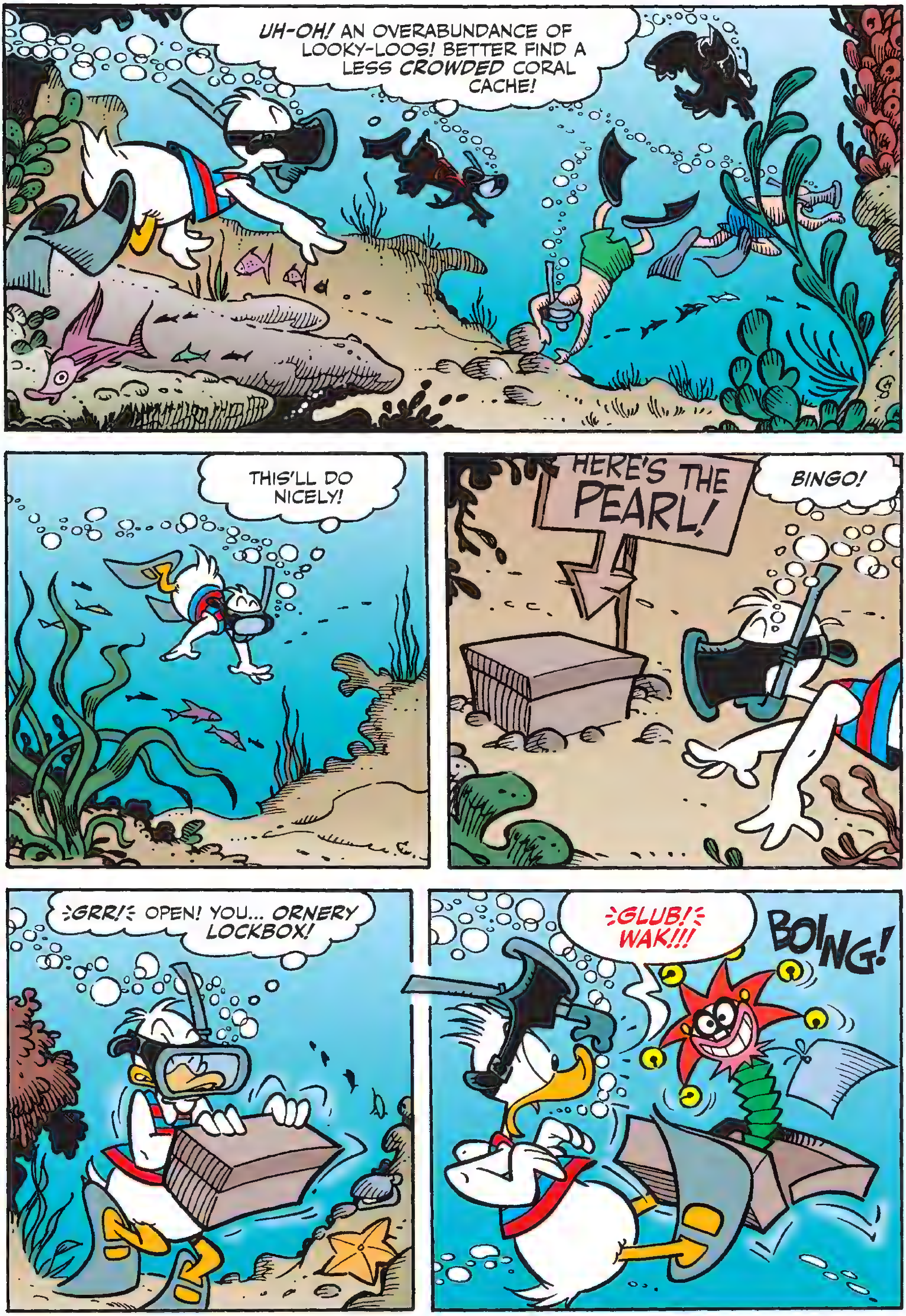

SO HOW MANY LIDS WOULD AUNT DAISY FLIP IF SHE SAW UNCA DONALD RIGHT NOW?
SHH! HERE HE COMES!

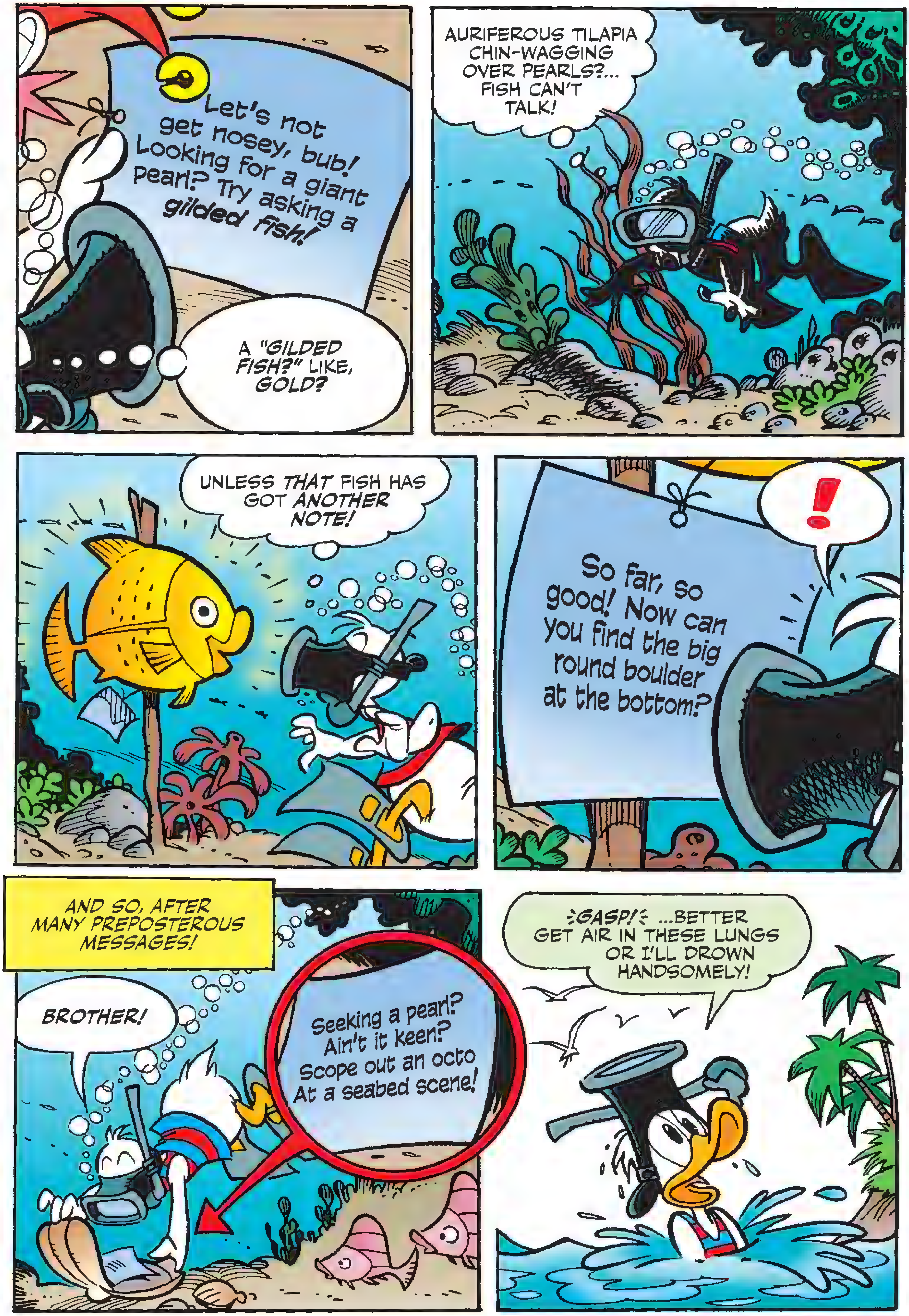

FETCH MY FLIPPERS AND DIVING GOGGLES, BOYS!

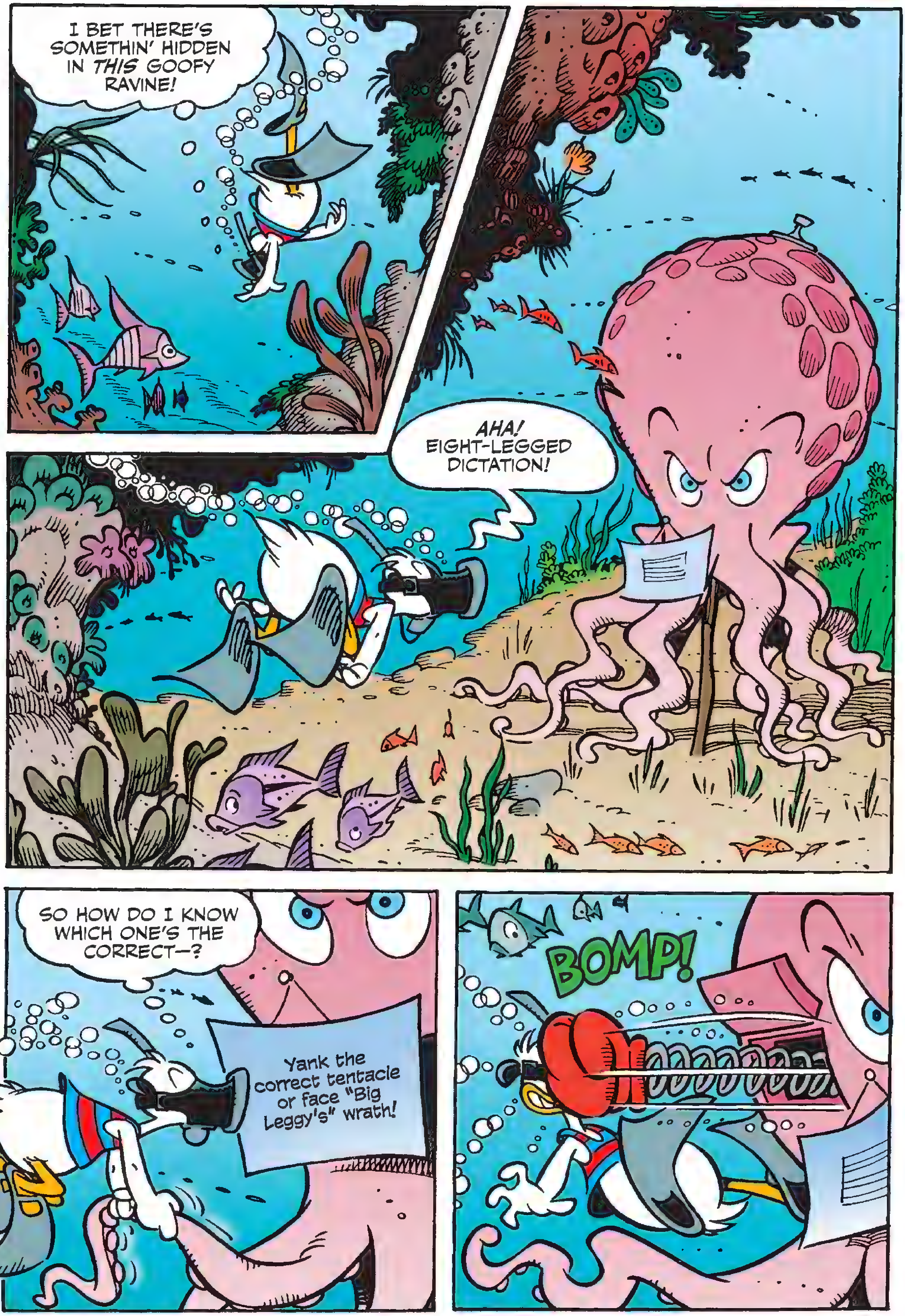

OH, JOY. IT'S "DONALD DUCK: MIGHTY PEARL-HUNTER!"
NO DOUBT ABOUT IT! I'LL GO READY OUR FIRST-AID KIT!
IT'S PRETTY IRRESPONSIBLE TO PRETEND YOU'VE MASTERED THE LOCAL PASTIMES...
...JUST FOR THE BRAGGING RIGHTS!
HO-HUM!
"WASN'T YOUR WINDSAILING TRIP DISASTROUS ENOUGH?
BONK
"...OR YOUR HORSEBACK RIDE THAT WASN'T?
THUD
"...OR YOUR WATERSKI TREK THAT ALSO WASN'T?"
?

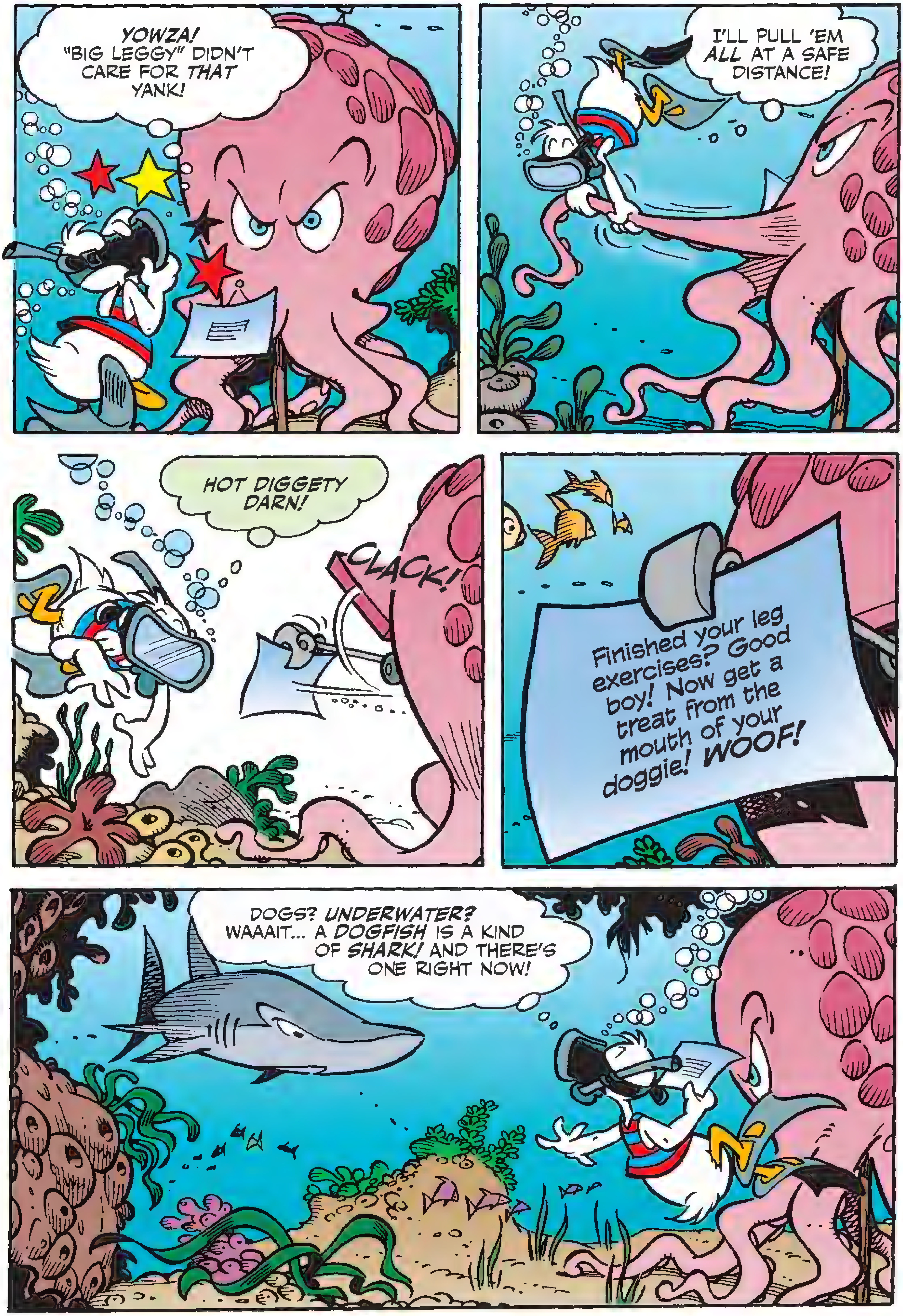

THE PEARL HUNT IS *DIFFERENT,* YOU DOUBTING MICROBES! ENTRANTS *RACE* TO FIND A *LEGIT* GIANT PEARL—*PLANTED* IN THIS BAY BY ALOHA VACATION VILLAGE...
AND THE *FINDER* GETS *HALF* THE TICKETS TO TONIGHT'S *RESORT LOTTERY!*
LOTTERY?
YOU GUYS DON'T KNOW? THE VACATION VILLAGE IS RAFFLING OFF A SPECIAL PRIZE!
DINNER AND DANCING IN THE COMPANY OF *"MISS ALOHA"*—THIS ISLAND'S *GLITZIEST* FASHION MODEL! WOW!
UNCA...? *HEY, UNCA DONALD!!!*
POOF
FOCUS, LOVERBOY! THE EVENT IS ABOUT TO START!
PUNT

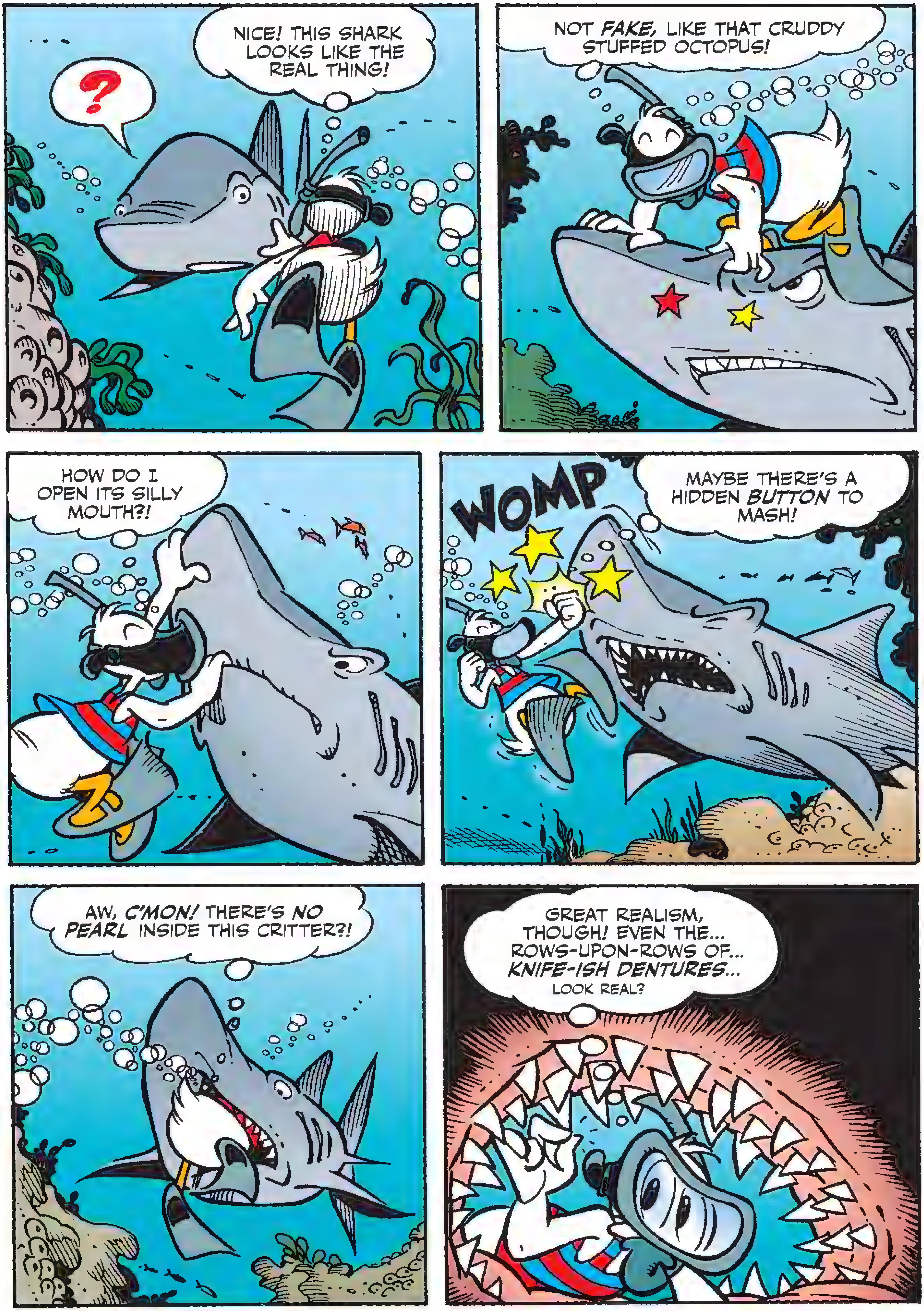

EVERYBODY LINE UP! THE RACE WILL SOON BEGIN!
YOU SHOULD ALREADY KNOW THE RULES AND ABOUT OUR *GRAND PRIZE!*
HOWEVER—TO ENCOURAGE THE SPIRIT OF *COMPETITION*—OUR RESORT DIRECTORS HAVE ARRANGED FOR A FEW... *"NIFTY TWISTS"* ALONG THE WAY!
ON YOUR MARKS... GET SET... *PEARL HUNT!!!*
FOOF!
SPLASH
SPLOOSH

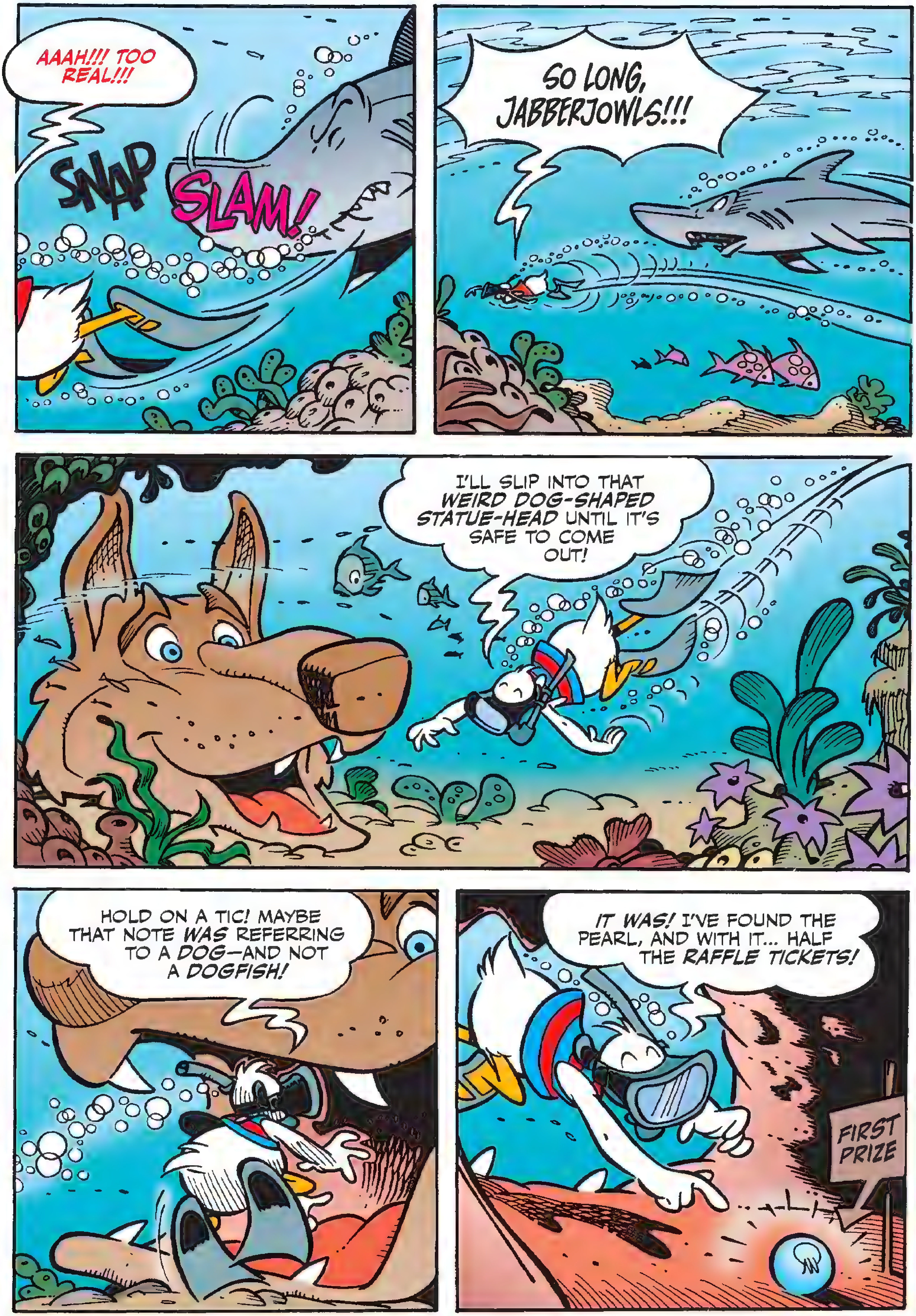

UH-OH! AN OVERABUNDANCE OF LOOKY-LOOS! BETTER FIND A LESS CROWDED CORAL CACHE!
THIS'LL DO NICELY!
HERE'S THE PEARL!
BINGO!
GRR! OPEN! YOU... ORNERY LOCKBOX!
GLUB! WAK!!!
BOING!

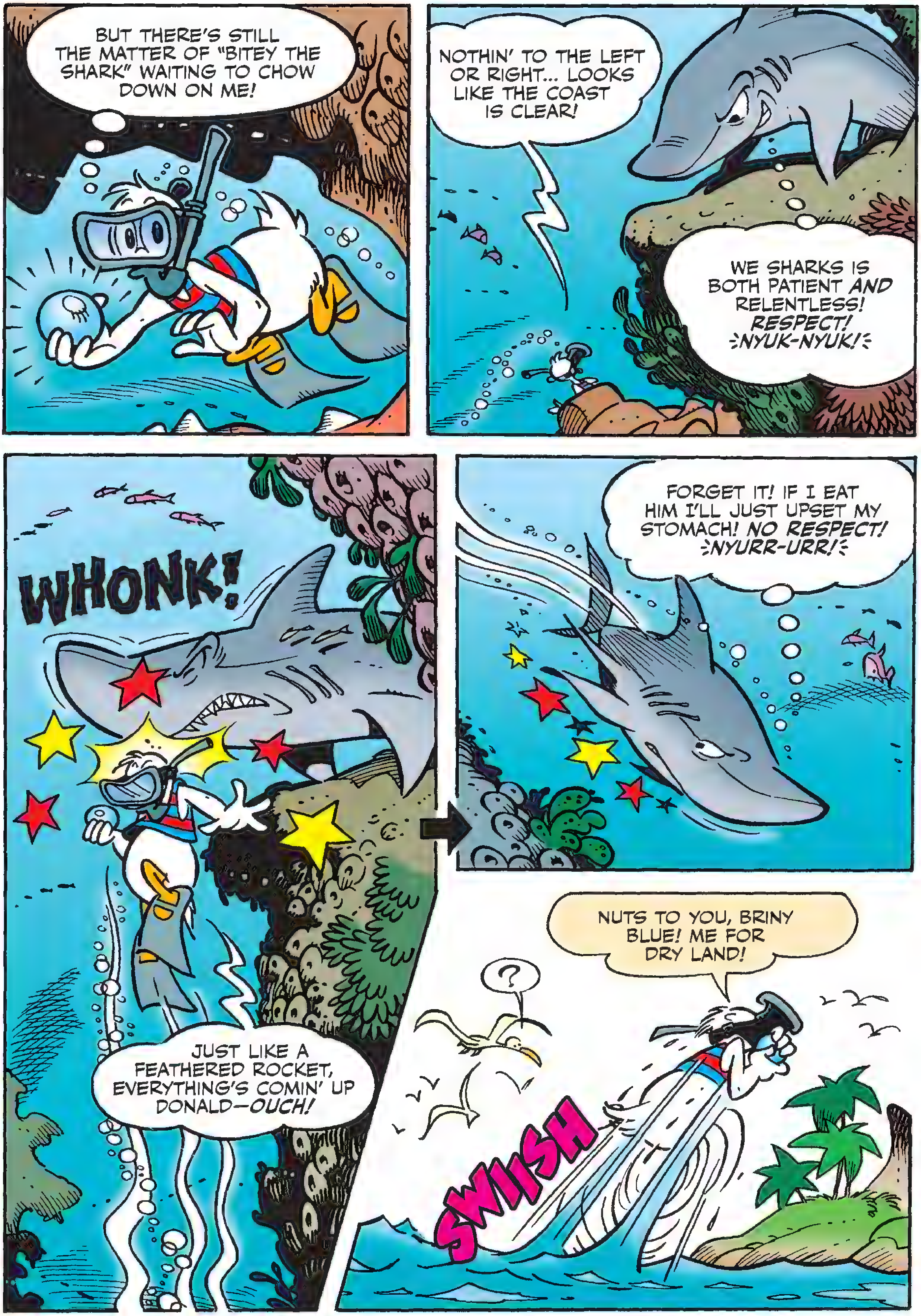

Let's not get nosey, bub! Looking for a giant pearl? Try asking a *gilded fish!*
A "GILDED FISH?" LIKE, GOLD?
AURIFEROUS TILAPIA CHIN-WAGGING OVER PEARLS?... FISH CAN'T TALK!
UNLESS *THAT* FISH HAS GOT *ANOTHER NOTE!*
So far, so good! Now can you find the big round boulder at the bottom?
!
AND SO, AFTER MANY PREPOSTEROUS MESSAGES!
BROTHER!
Seeking a pearl? Ain't it keen? Scope out an octo At a seabed scene!
GASP! ...BETTER GET AIR IN THESE LUNGS OR I'LL DROWN HANDSOMELY!

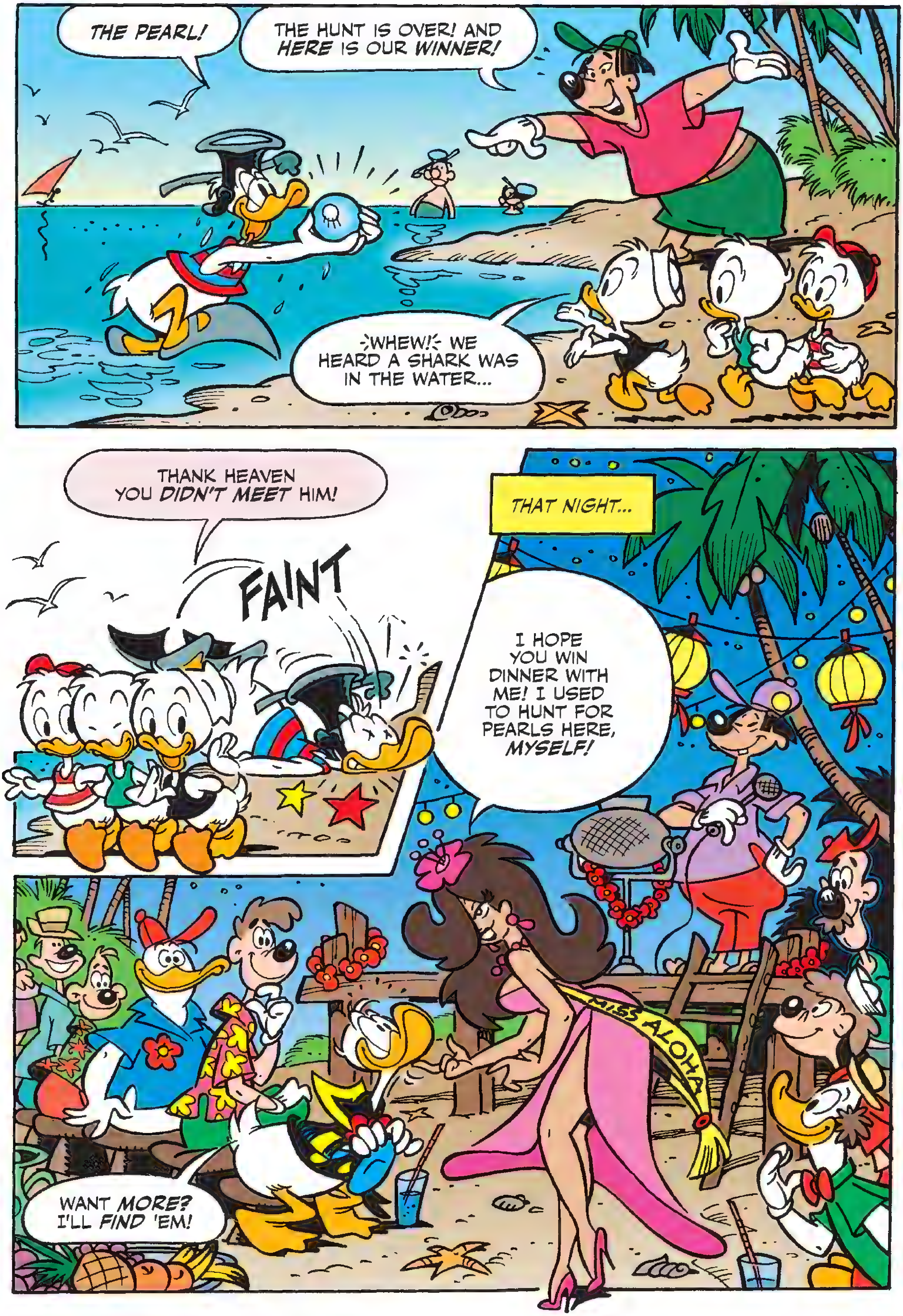

I BET THERE'S SOMETHIN' HIDDEN IN *THIS* GOOFY RAVINE!
AHA! EIGHT-LEGGED DICTATION!
SO HOW DO I KNOW WHICH ONE'S THE CORRECT—?
Yank the correct tentacle or face "Big Leggy's" wrath!
BOMP!

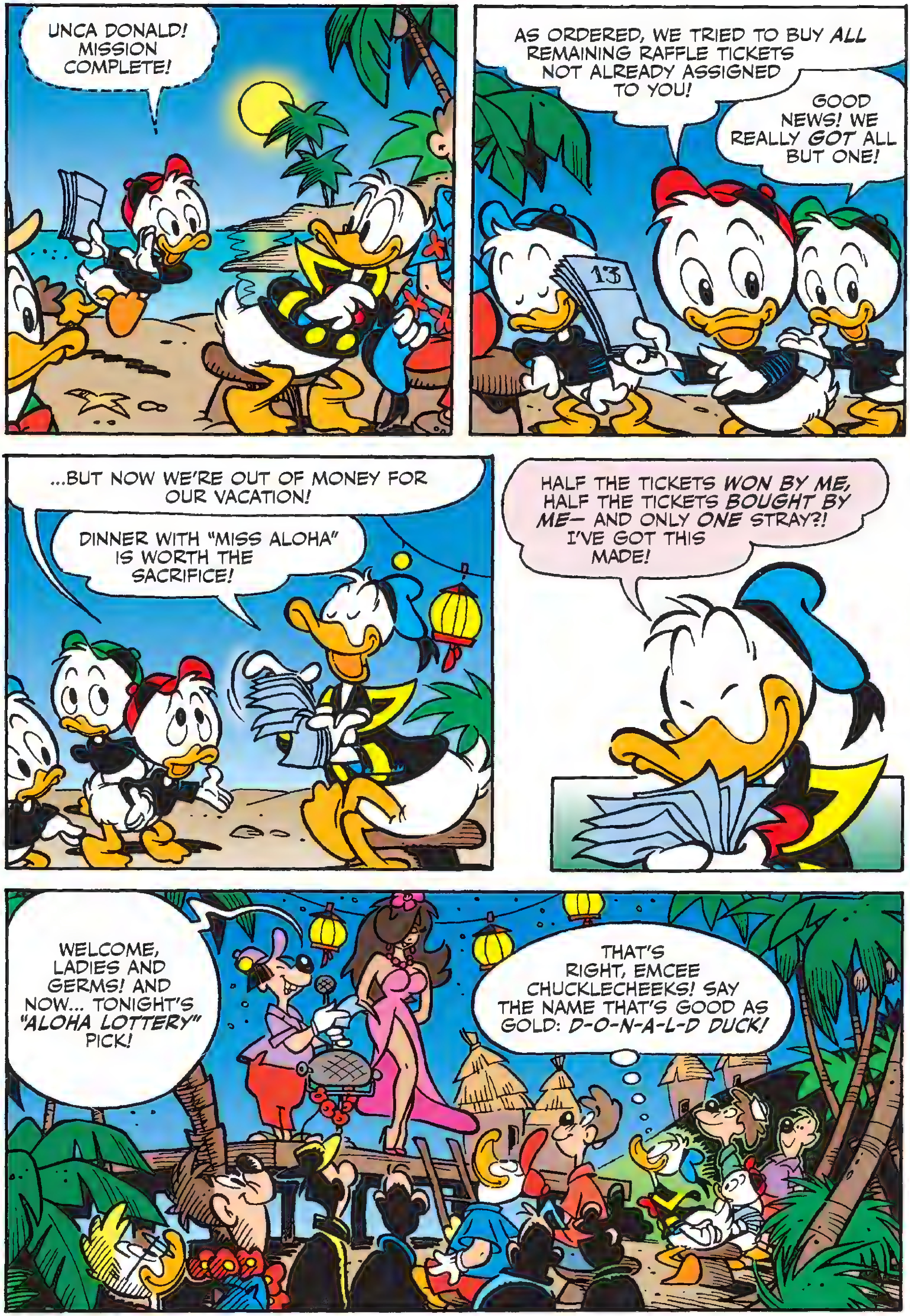

YOWZA! "BIG LEGGY" DIDN'T CARE FOR THAT YANK!
I'LL PULL 'EM ALL AT A SAFE DISTANCE!
HOT DIGGETY DARN!
CLACK!
Finished your leg exercises? Good boy! Now get a treat from the mouth of your doggie! WOOF!
DOGS? UNDERWATER? WAAAIT... A DOGFISH IS A KIND OF SHARK! AND THERE'S ONE RIGHT NOW!

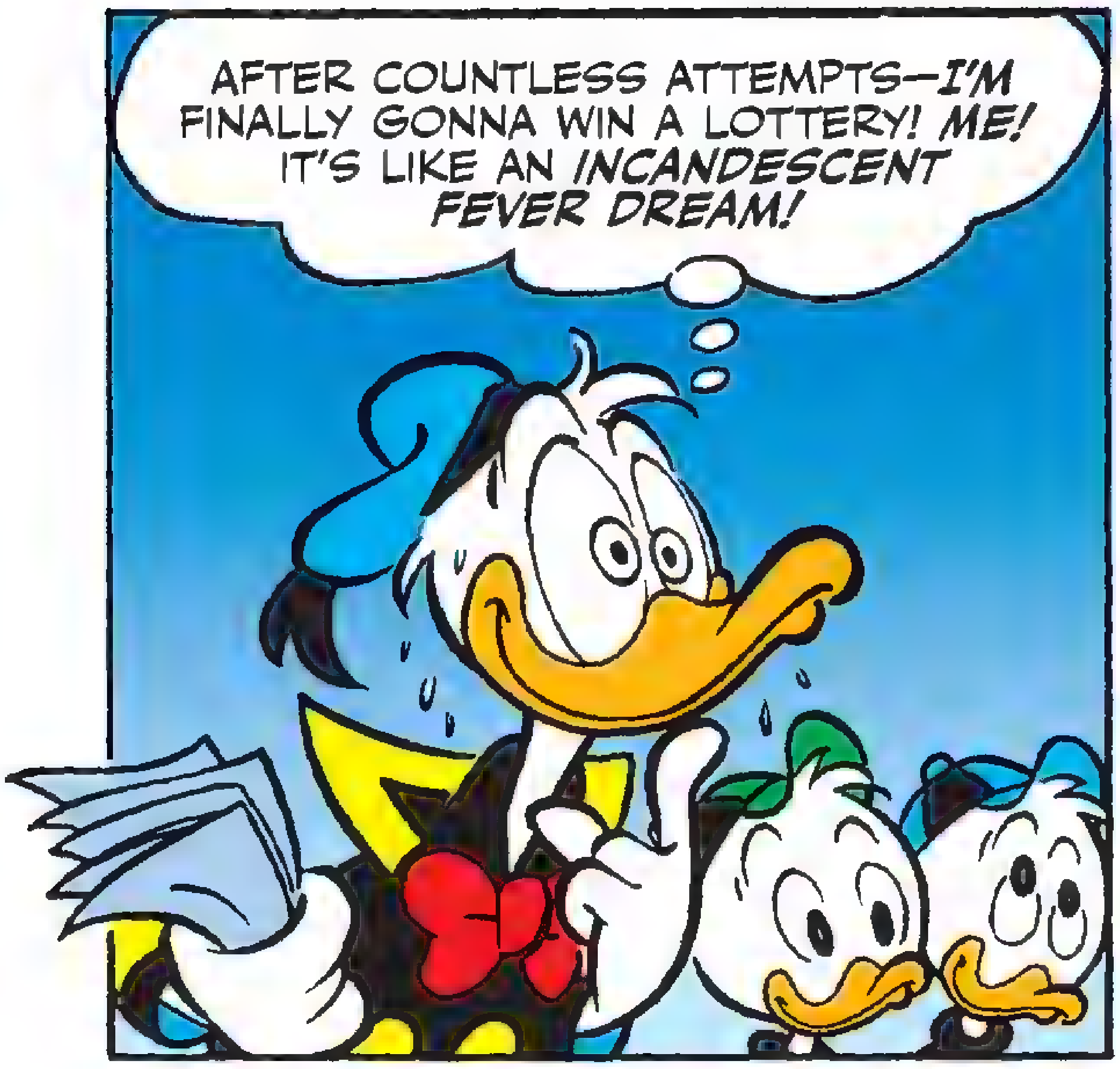

?
NICE! THIS SHARK LOOKS LIKE THE REAL THING!
NOT *FAKE,* LIKE THAT CRUDDY STUFFED OCTOPUS!
HOW DO I OPEN ITS SILLY MOUTH?!
WOMP
MAYBE THERE'S A HIDDEN *BUTTON* TO MASH!
AW, *C'MON!* THERE'S *NO PEARL* INSIDE THIS CRITTER?!
GREAT REALISM, THOUGH! EVEN THE... ROWS-UPON-ROWS OF... *KNIFE-ISH DENTURES*... LOOK REAL?

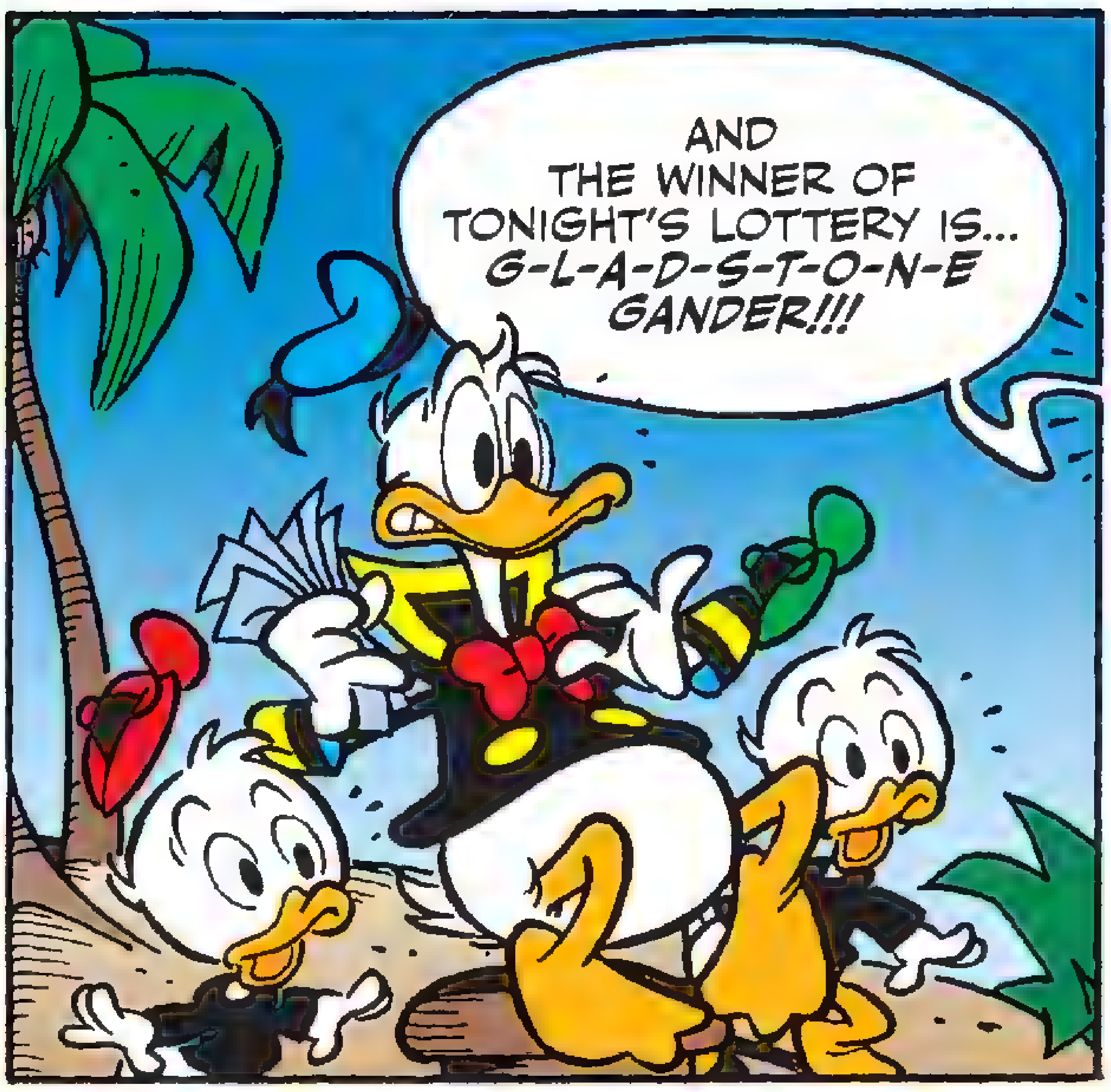

AAAH!!! TOO REAL!!!
SNAP
SLAM!
SO LONG, JABBERJOWLS!!!
I'LL SLIP INTO THAT *WEIRD DOG-SHAPED STATUE-HEAD* UNTIL IT'S SAFE TO COME OUT!
HOLD ON A TIC! MAYBE THAT NOTE *WAS* REFERRING TO A *DOG*—AND NOT A *DOGFISH!*
IT WAS! I'VE FOUND THE PEARL, AND WITH IT... HALF THE *RAFFLE TICKETS!*
FIRST PRIZE

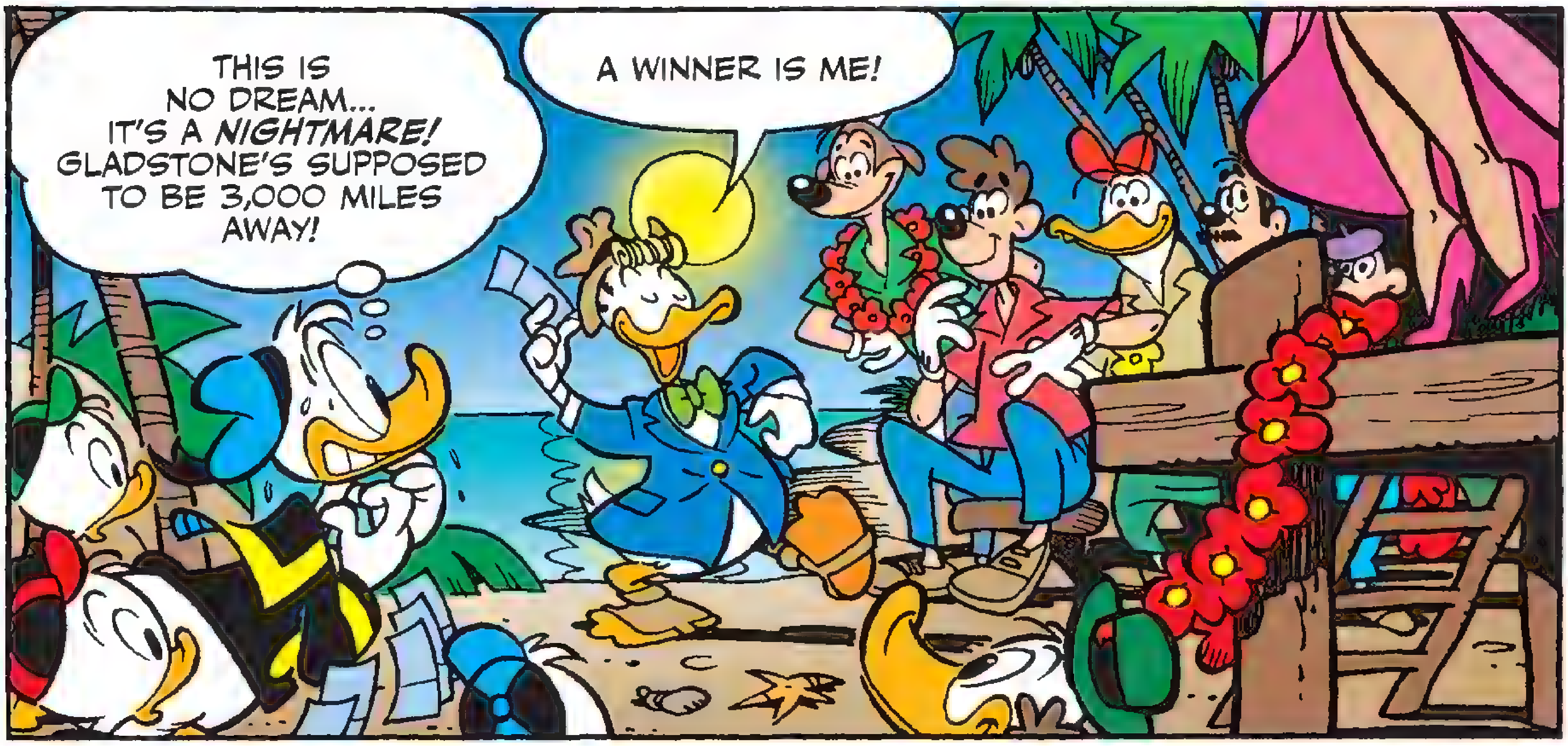

BUT THERE'S STILL THE MATTER OF "BITEY THE SHARK" WAITING TO CHOW DOWN ON ME!
NOTHIN' TO THE LEFT OR RIGHT... LOOKS LIKE THE COAST IS CLEAR!
WE SHARKS IS BOTH PATIENT *AND* RELENTLESS! *RESPECT!* *NYUK-NYUK!*
WHONK!
JUST LIKE A FEATHERED ROCKET, EVERYTHING'S COMIN' UP DONALD—*OUCH!*
FORGET IT! IF I EAT HIM I'LL JUST UPSET MY STOMACH! *NO RESPECT!* *NYURR-URR!*
?
NUTS TO YOU, BRINY BLUE! ME FOR DRY LAND!
SWISH

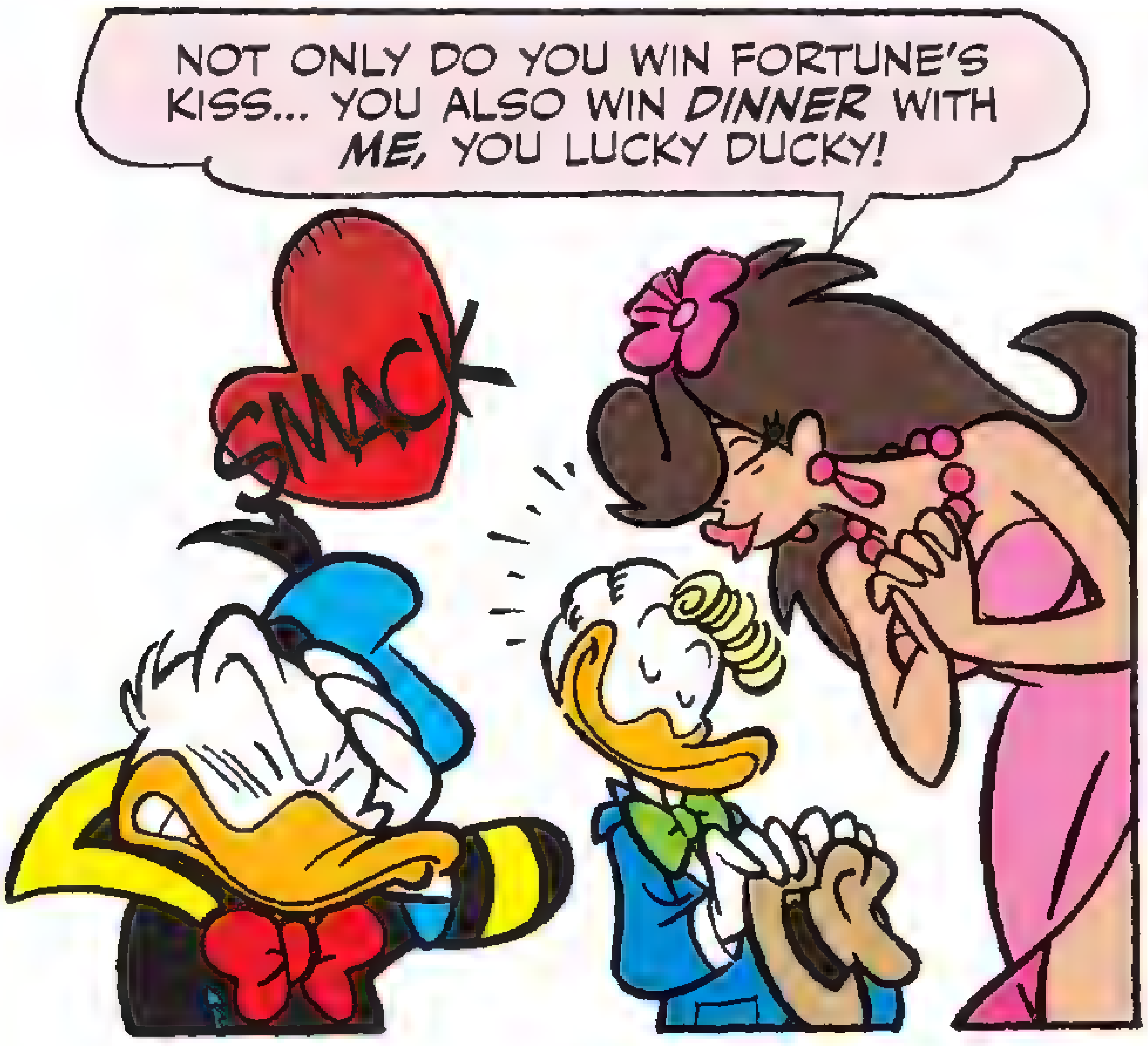

THE PEARL!
THE HUNT IS OVER! AND *HERE* IS OUR *WINNER!*
-WHEW!- WE HEARD A SHARK WAS IN THE WATER...
THANK HEAVEN YOU *DIDN'T MEET* HIM!
FAINT
THAT NIGHT...
I HOPE YOU WIN DINNER WITH ME! I USED TO HUNT FOR PEARLS HERE, *MYSELF!*
MISS ALOHA
WANT *MORE?* I'LL *FIND* 'EM!

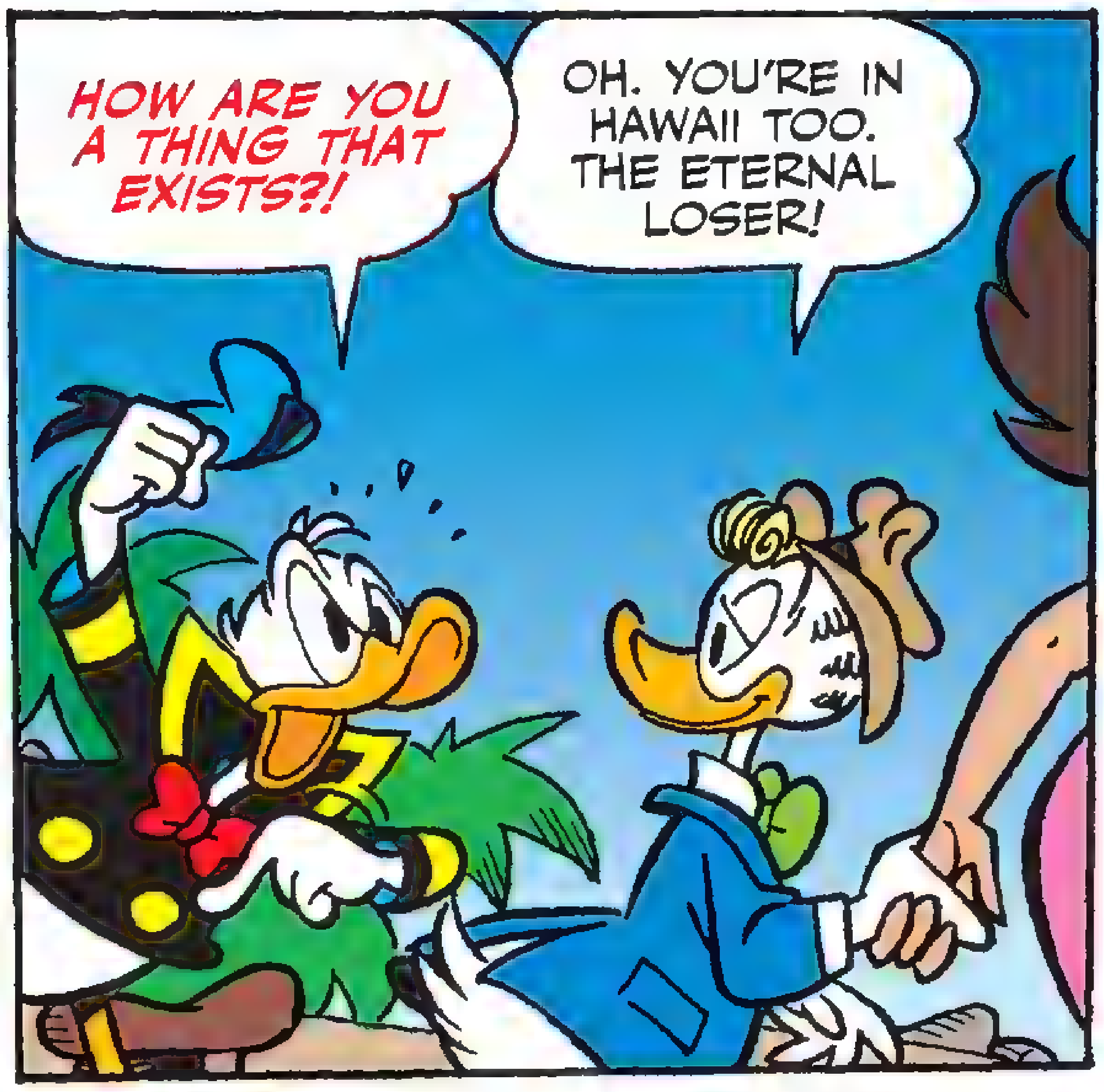

UNCA DONALD! MISSION COMPLETE!
AS ORDERED, WE TRIED TO BUY *ALL* REMAINING RAFFLE TICKETS NOT ALREADY ASSIGNED TO YOU!
GOOD NEWS! WE REALLY *GOT* ALL BUT ONE!
13
...BUT NOW WE'RE OUT OF MONEY FOR OUR VACATION!
DINNER WITH "MISS ALOHA" IS WORTH THE SACRIFICE!
HALF THE TICKETS *WON BY ME,* HALF THE TICKETS *BOUGHT BY ME*— AND ONLY *ONE* STRAY?! I'VE GOT THIS MADE!
WELCOME, LADIES AND GERMS! AND NOW... TONIGHT'S *"ALOHA LOTTERY"* PICK!
THAT'S RIGHT, EMCEE CHUCKLECHEEKS! SAY THE NAME THAT'S GOOD AS GOLD: *D-O-N-A-L-D DUCK!*

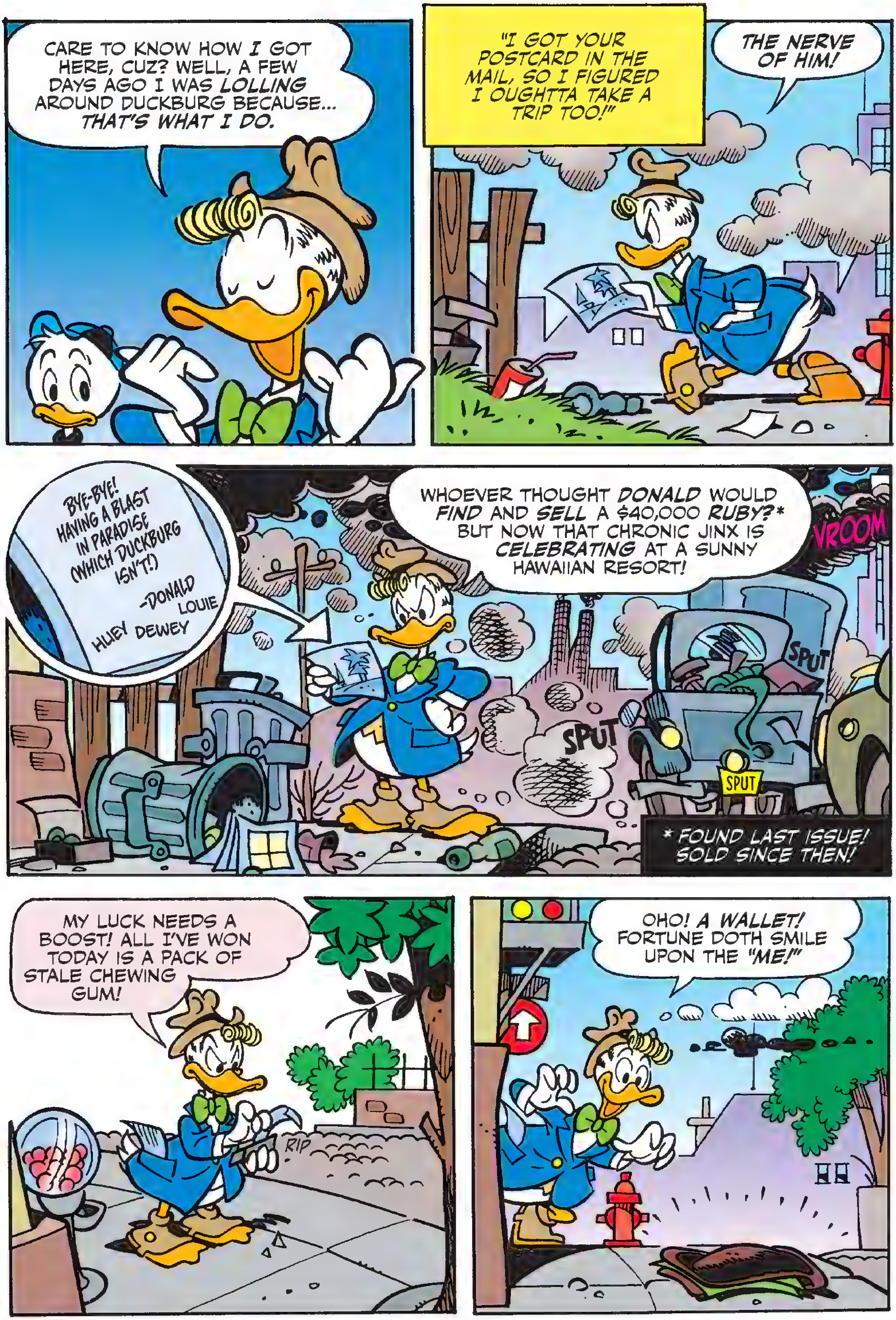

AFTER COUNTLESS ATTEMPTS—*I'M* FINALLY GONNA WIN A LOTTERY! *ME!* IT'S LIKE AN *INCANDESCENT FEVER DREAM!*

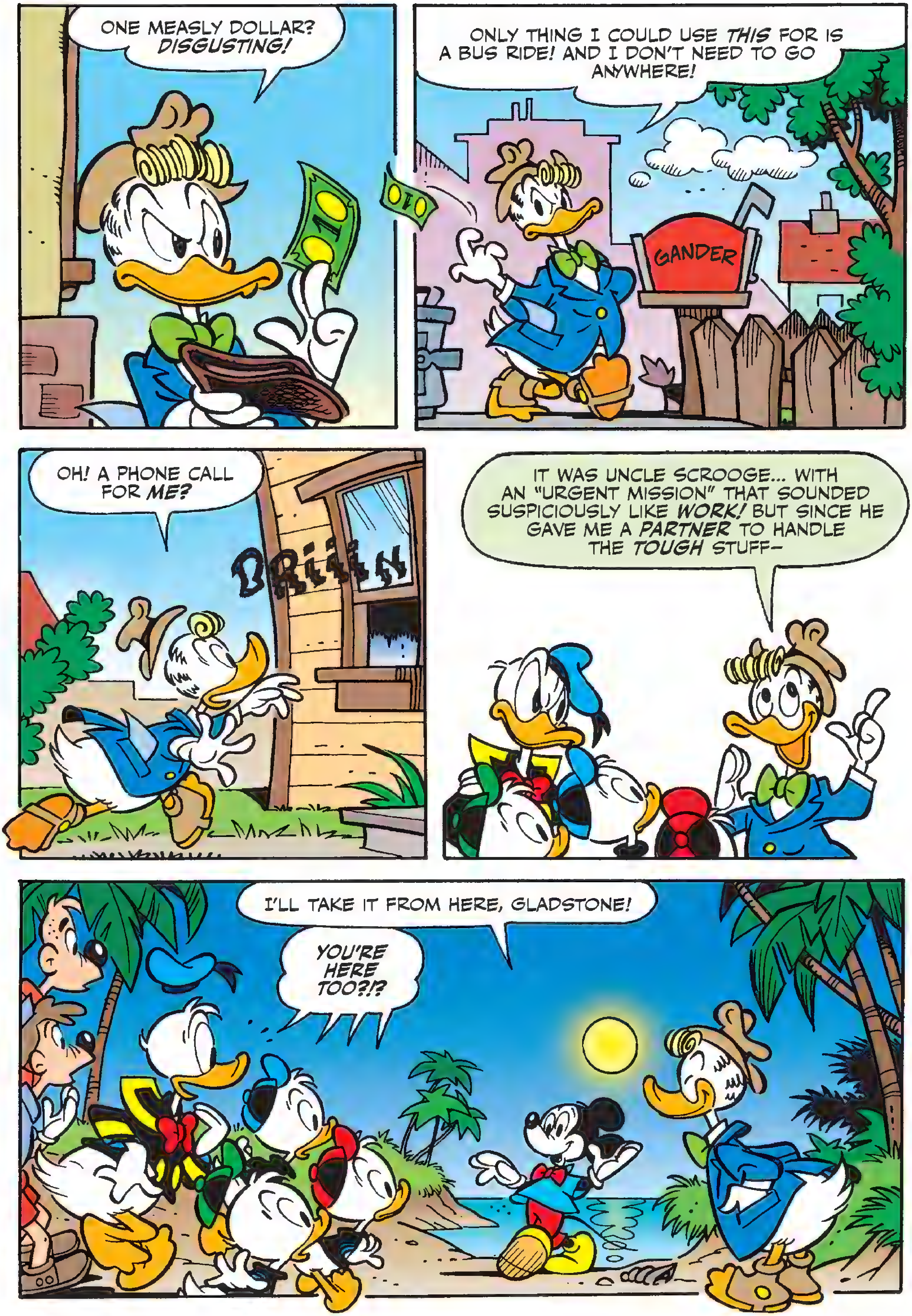

AND THE WINNER OF TONIGHT'S LOTTERY IS... *G-L-A-D-S-T-O-N-E GANDER!!!*

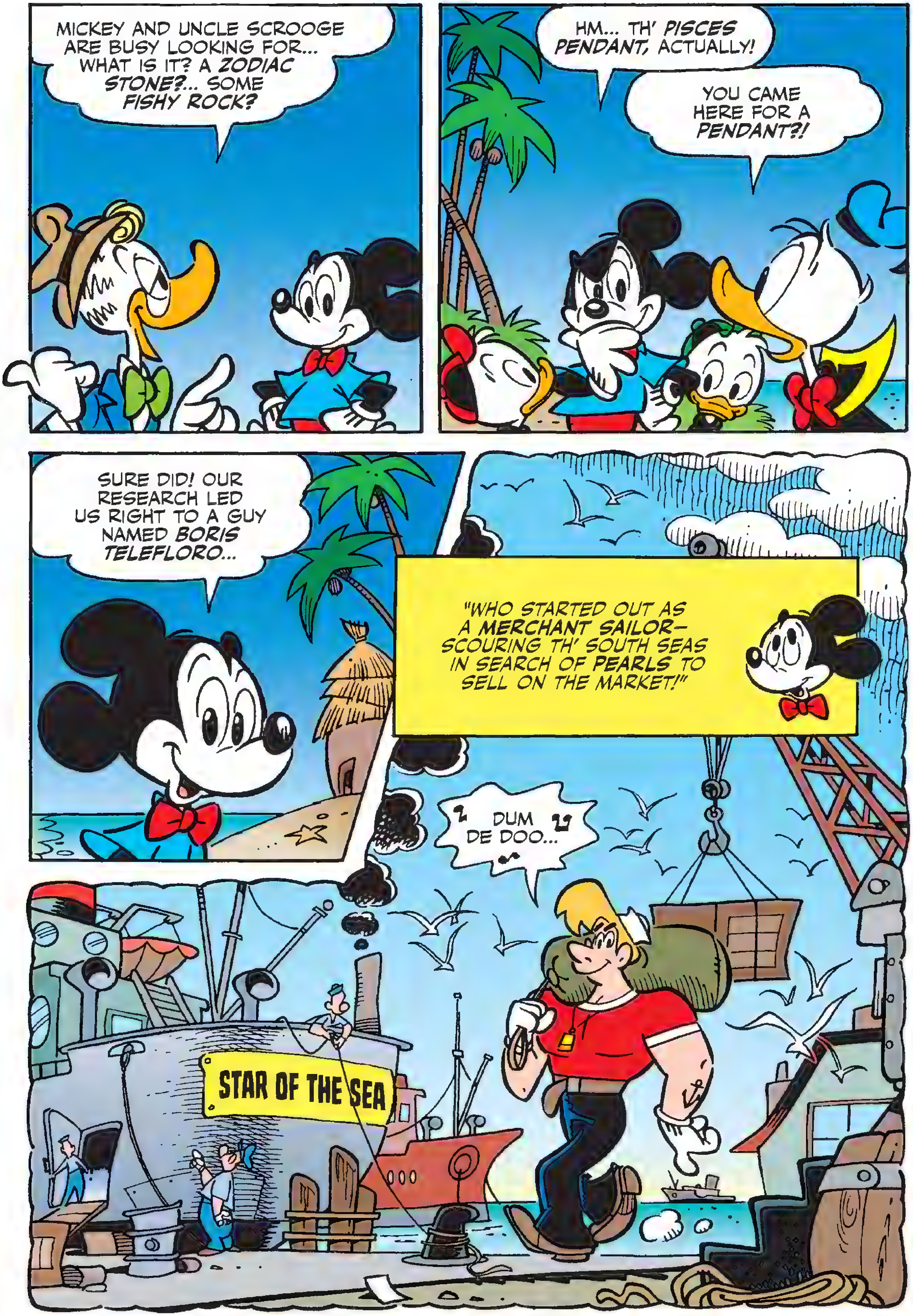

THIS IS NO DREAM... IT'S A *NIGHTMARE!* GLADSTONE'S SUPPOSED TO BE 3,000 MILES AWAY!
A WINNER IS ME!

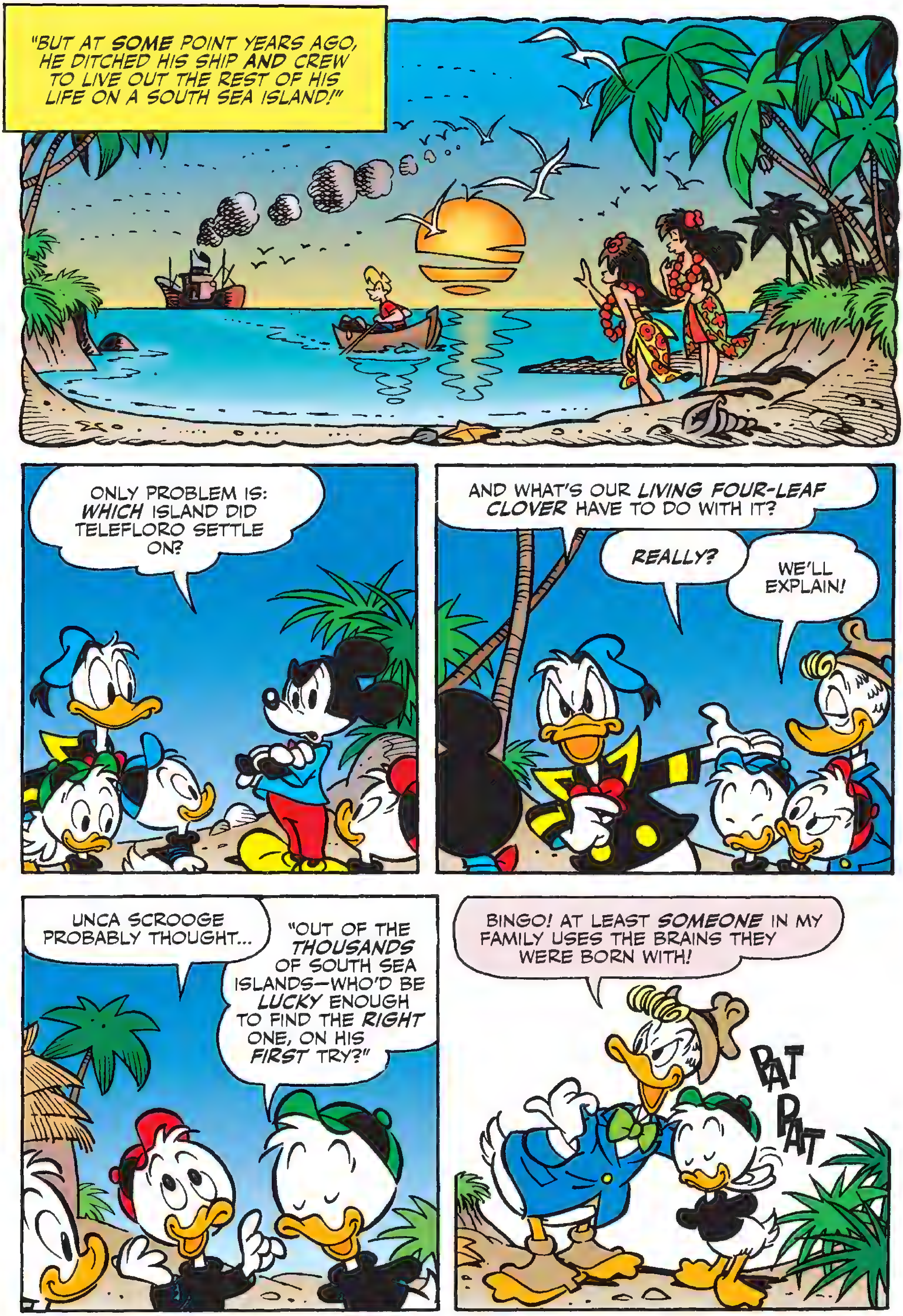

NOT ONLY DO YOU WIN FORTUNE'S KISS... YOU ALSO WIN *DINNER* WITH *ME,* YOU LUCKY DUCKY!
SMACK

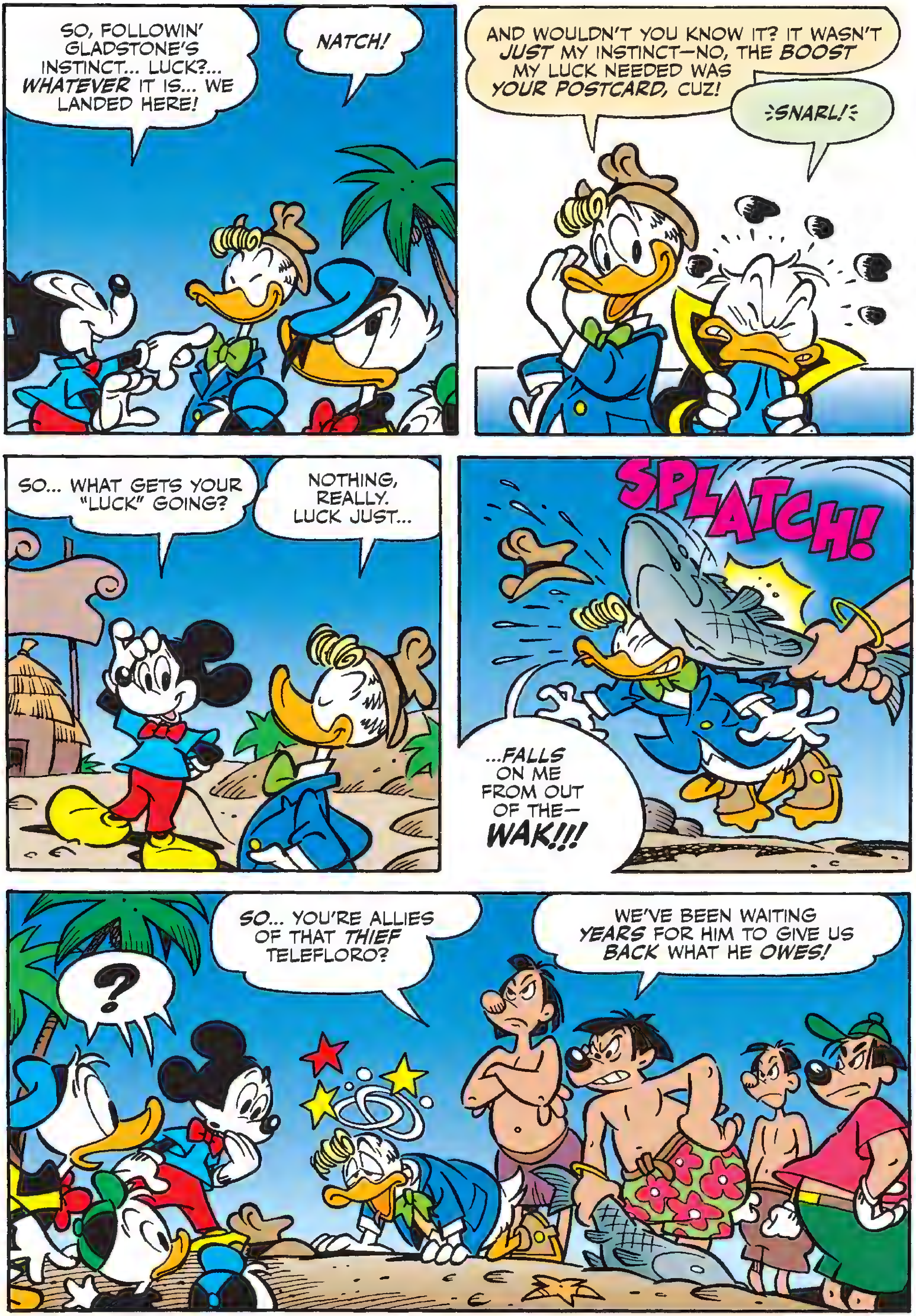

HOW ARE YOU A THING THAT EXISTS?!
OH. YOU'RE IN HAWAII TOO. THE ETERNAL LOSER!

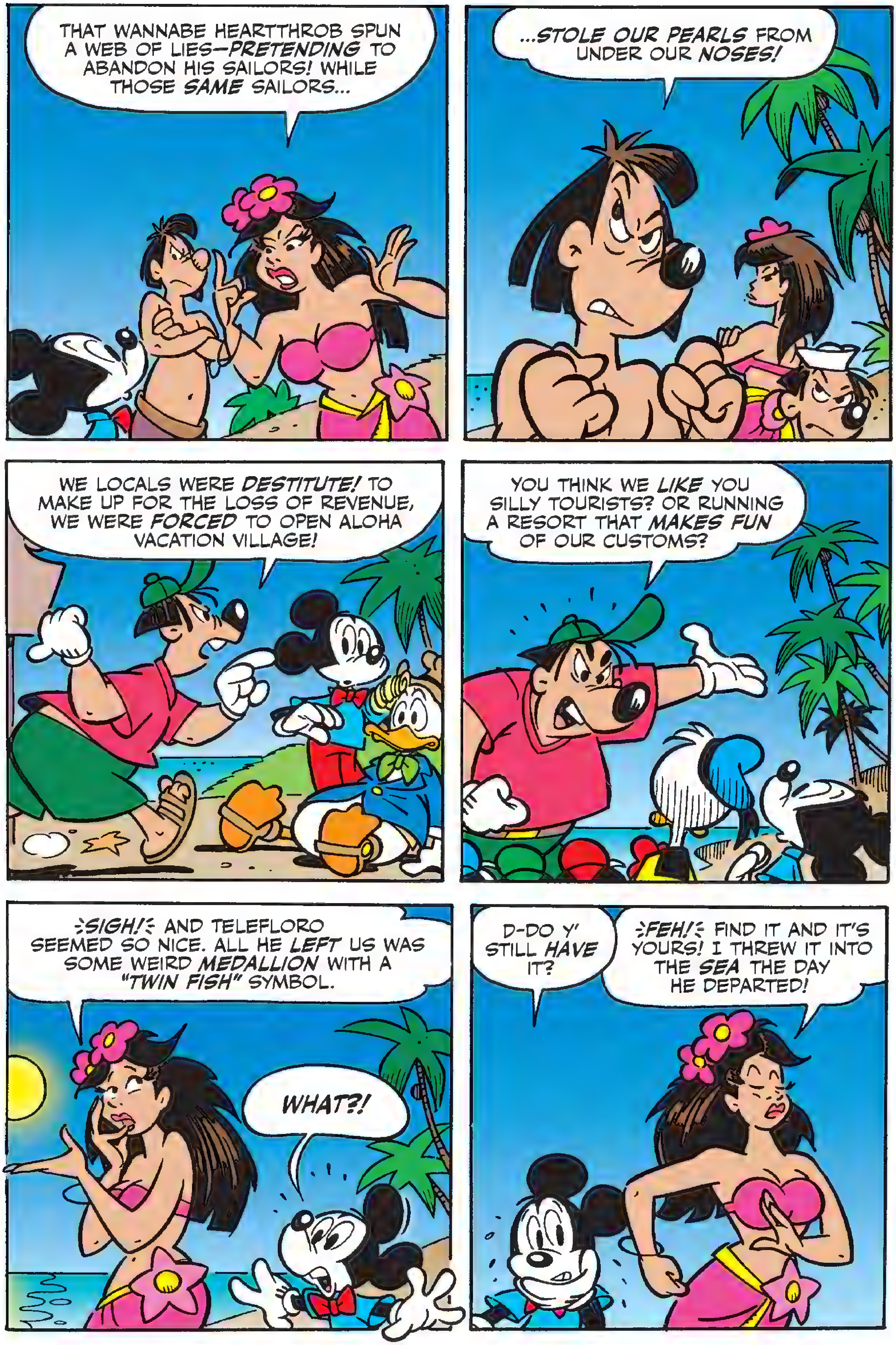

CARE TO KNOW HOW *I* GOT HERE, CUZ? WELL, A FEW DAYS AGO I WAS *LOLLING* AROUND DUCKBURG BECAUSE... *THAT'S WHAT I DO.*
"I GOT YOUR POSTCARD IN THE MAIL, SO I FIGURED I OUGHTTA TAKE A TRIP TOO!"
THE NERVE OF HIM!
BYE-BYE! HAVING A BLAST IN PARADISE (WHICH DUCKBURG ISN'T!) -DONALD LOUIE HUEY DEWEY
WHOEVER THOUGHT *DONALD* WOULD *FIND* AND *SELL* A $40,000 *RUBY?** BUT NOW THAT CHRONIC JINX IS *CELEBRATING* AT A SUNNY HAWAIIAN RESORT!
VROOM
SPUT
SPUT
SPUT
* FOUND LAST ISSUE! SOLD SINCE THEN!
MY LUCK NEEDS A BOOST! ALL I'VE WON TODAY IS A PACK OF STALE CHEWING GUM!
RIP
OHO! *A WALLET!* FORTUNE DOTH SMILE UPON THE *"ME!"*

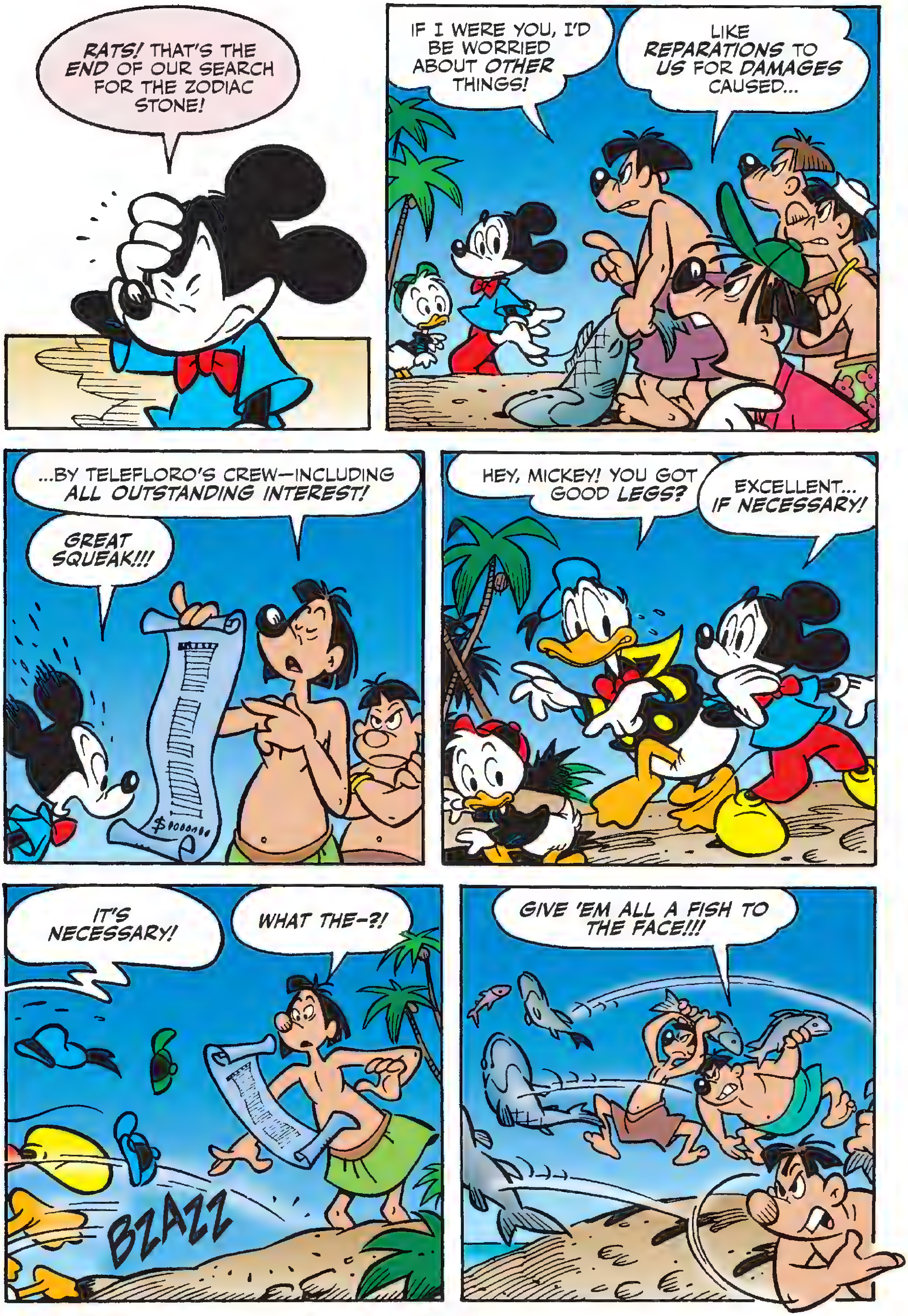

ONE MEASLY DOLLAR? *DISGUSTING!*
ONLY THING I COULD USE *THIS* FOR IS A BUS RIDE! AND I DON'T NEED TO GO ANYWHERE!
GANDER
OH! A PHONE CALL FOR *ME?*
DRIIIN
IT WAS UNCLE SCROOGE... WITH AN "URGENT MISSION" THAT SOUNDED SUSPICIOUSLY LIKE *WORK!* BUT SINCE HE GAVE ME A *PARTNER* TO HANDLE THE *TOUGH* STUFF–
I'LL TAKE IT FROM HERE, GLADSTONE!
YOU'RE HERE TOO?!?

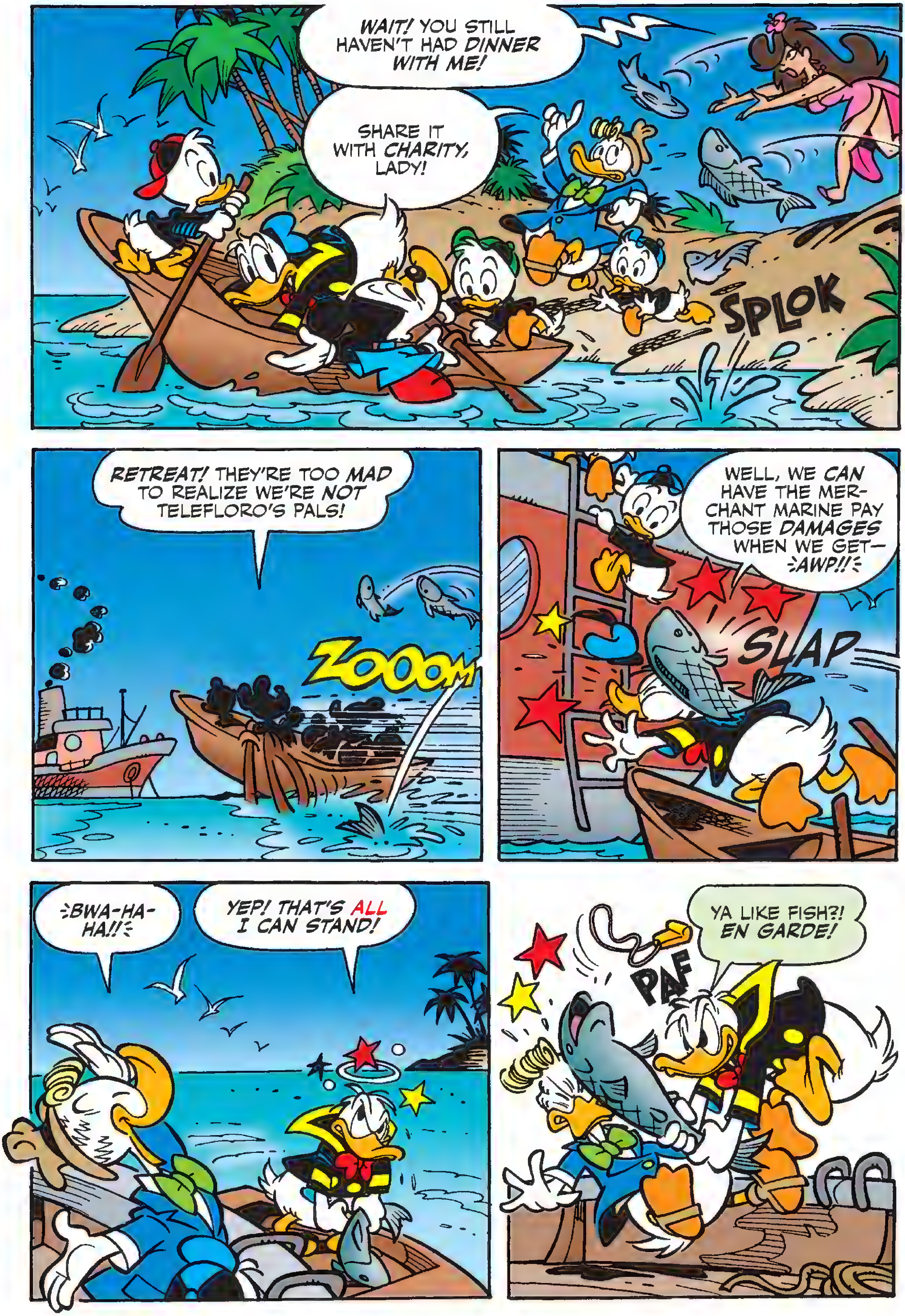

MICKEY AND UNCLE SCROOGE ARE BUSY LOOKING FOR... WHAT IS IT? A *ZODIAC STONE?*... SOME *FISHY ROCK?*
HM... TH' *PISCES PENDANT,* ACTUALLY!
YOU CAME HERE FOR A *PENDANT?!*
SURE DID! OUR RESEARCH LED US RIGHT TO A GUY NAMED *BORIS TELEFLORO*...
"WHO STARTED OUT AS A **MERCHANT SAILOR**— SCOURING TH' SOUTH SEAS IN SEARCH OF **PEARLS** TO SELL ON THE MARKET!"
DUM DE DOO...
STAR OF THE SEA

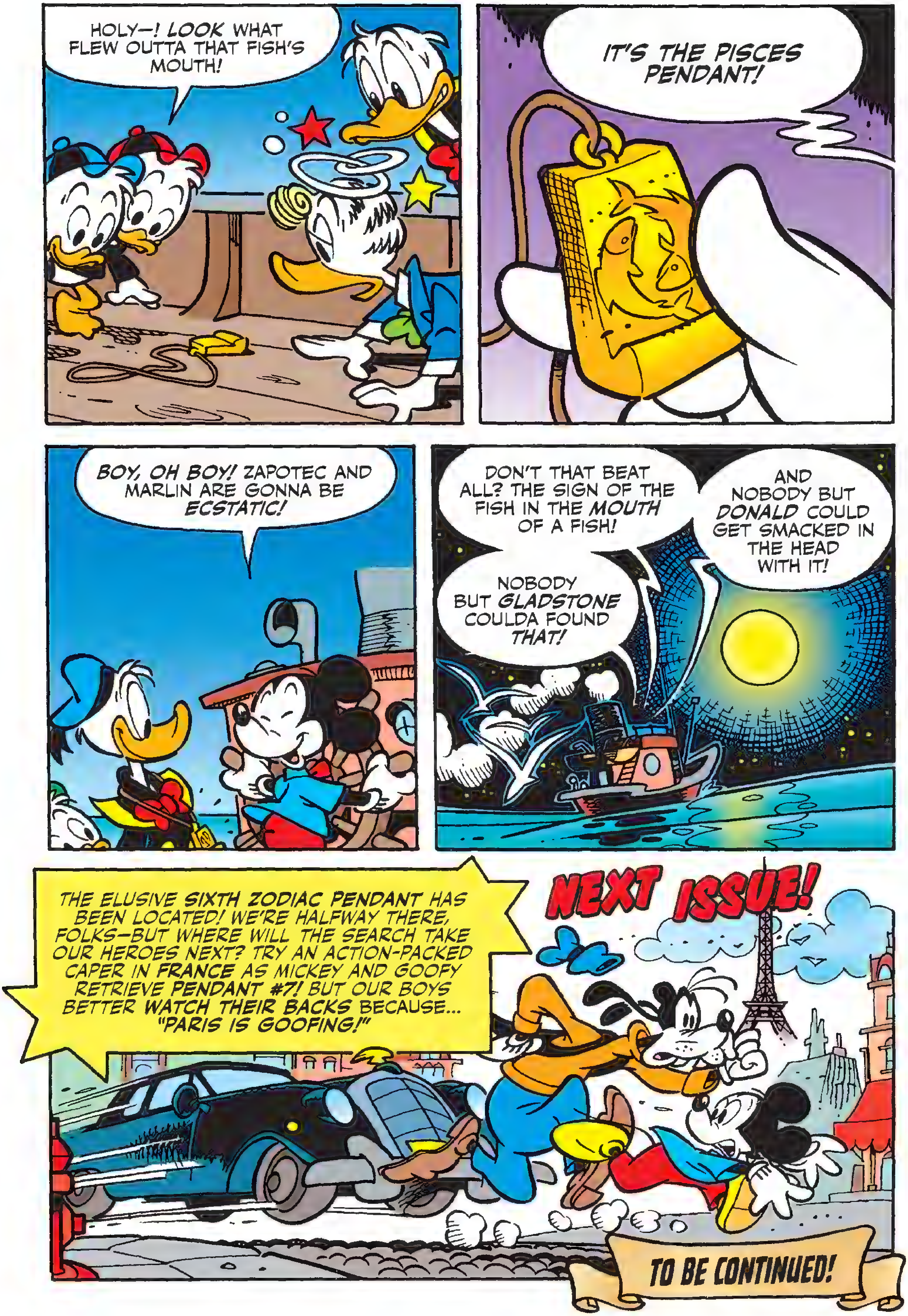

"BUT AT SOME POINT YEARS AGO, HE DITCHED HIS SHIP AND CREW TO LIVE OUT THE REST OF HIS LIFE ON A SOUTH SEA ISLAND!"
ONLY PROBLEM IS: WHICH ISLAND DID TELEFLORO SETTLE ON?
AND WHAT'S OUR LIVING FOUR-LEAF CLOVER HAVE TO DO WITH IT?
REALLY?
WE'LL EXPLAIN!
UNCA SCROOGE PROBABLY THOUGHT...
"OUT OF THE THOUSANDS OF SOUTH SEA ISLANDS—WHO'D BE LUCKY ENOUGH TO FIND THE RIGHT ONE, ON HIS FIRST TRY?"
BINGO! AT LEAST SOMEONE IN MY FAMILY USES THE BRAINS THEY WERE BORN WITH!
PAT
PAT

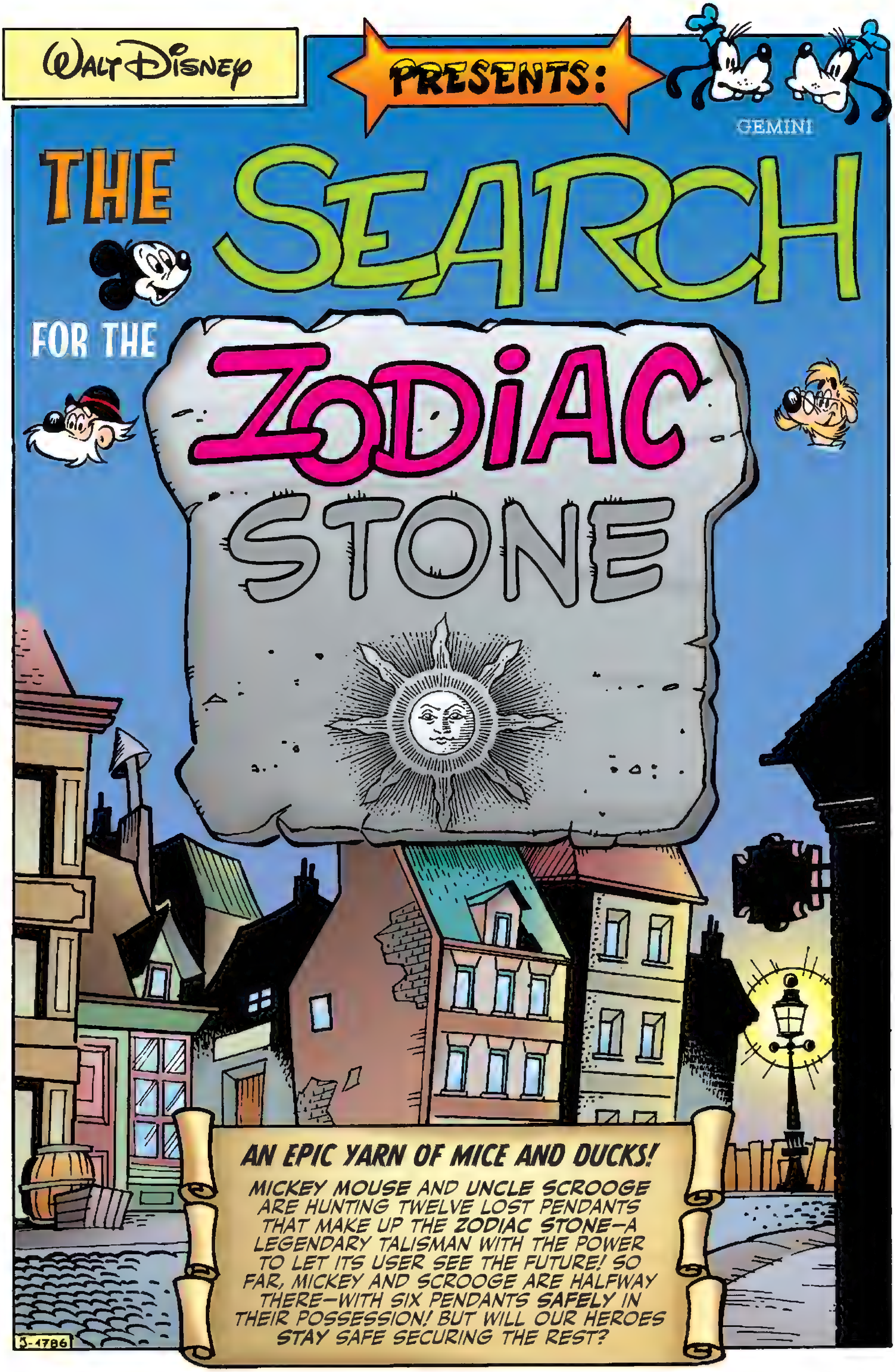

SO, FOLLOWIN' GLADSTONE'S INSTINCT... LUCK?... *WHATEVER* IT IS... WE LANDED HERE!
NATCH!
AND WOULDN'T YOU KNOW IT? IT WASN'T *JUST* MY INSTINCT—NO, THE *BOOST* MY LUCK NEEDED WAS *YOUR POSTCARD,* CUZ!
SNARL!
SO... WHAT GETS YOUR "LUCK" GOING?
NOTHING, REALLY. LUCK JUST...
SPLATCH!
...*FALLS* ON ME FROM OUT OF THE—
WAK!!!
?
SO... YOU'RE ALLIES OF THAT *THIEF* TELEFLORO?
WE'VE BEEN WAITING *YEARS* FOR HIM TO GIVE US *BACK* WHAT HE *OWES!*


THAT WANNABE HEARTTHROB SPUN A WEB OF LIES—*PRETENDING* TO ABANDON HIS SAILORS! WHILE THOSE *SAME* SAILORS...
...*STOLE OUR PEARLS* FROM UNDER OUR *NOSES!*
WE LOCALS WERE *DESTITUTE!* TO MAKE UP FOR THE LOSS OF REVENUE, WE WERE *FORCED* TO OPEN ALOHA VACATION VILLAGE!
YOU THINK WE *LIKE* YOU SILLY TOURISTS? OR RUNNING A RESORT THAT *MAKES FUN* OF OUR CUSTOMS?
SIGH! AND TELEFLORO SEEMED SO NICE. ALL HE *LEFT* US WAS SOME WEIRD *MEDALLION* WITH A *"TWIN FISH"* SYMBOL.
WHAT?!
D-DO Y' STILL *HAVE* IT?
FEH! FIND IT AND IT'S YOURS! I THREW IT INTO THE *SEA* THE DAY HE DEPARTED!


RATS! THAT'S THE END OF OUR SEARCH FOR THE ZODIAC STONE!
IF I WERE YOU, I'D BE WORRIED ABOUT OTHER THINGS!
LIKE REPARATIONS TO US FOR DAMAGES CAUSED...
...BY TELEFLORO'S CREW—INCLUDING ALL OUTSTANDING INTEREST!
GREAT SQUEAK!!!
$000000
HEY, MICKEY! YOU GOT GOOD LEGS?
EXCELLENT... IF NECESSARY!
IT'S NECESSARY!
WHAT THE–?!
BZAZZ
GIVE 'EM ALL A FISH TO THE FACE!!!


WAIT! YOU STILL HAVEN'T HAD DINNER WITH ME!
SHARE IT WITH CHARITY, LADY!
SPLOK
RETREAT! THEY'RE TOO MAD TO REALIZE WE'RE NOT TELEFLORO'S PALS!
ZOOOM
WELL, WE CAN HAVE THE MERCHANT MARINE PAY THOSE DAMAGES WHEN WE GET— AWP!!
SLAP
BWA-HA-HA!!
YEP! THAT'S ALL I CAN STAND!
PAF
YA LIKE FISH?! EN GARDE!


HOLY—! LOOK WHAT FLEW OUTTA THAT FISH'S MOUTH!
IT'S THE PISCES PENDANT!
BOY, OH BOY! ZAPOTEC AND MARLIN ARE GONNA BE ECSTATIC!
DON'T THAT BEAT ALL? THE SIGN OF THE FISH IN THE MOUTH OF A FISH!
AND NOBODY BUT DONALD COULD GET SMACKED IN THE HEAD WITH IT!
NOBODY BUT GLADSTONE COULDA FOUND THAT!
NEXT ISSUE!
THE ELUSIVE SIXTH ZODIAC PENDANT HAS BEEN LOCATED! WE'RE HALFWAY THERE, FOLKS—BUT WHERE WILL THE SEARCH TAKE OUR HEROES NEXT? TRY AN ACTION-PACKED CAPER IN FRANCE AS MICKEY AND GOOFY RETRIEVE PENDANT #7! BUT OUR BOYS BETTER WATCH THEIR BACKS BECAUSE... "PARIS IS GOOFING!"
TO BE CONTINUED!


WALT DISNEY
PRESENTS:
GEMINI
THE SEARCH FOR THE ZODIAC STONE
AN EPIC YARN OF MICE AND DUCKS!
MICKEY MOUSE AND UNCLE SCROOGE ARE HUNTING TWELVE LOST PENDANTS THAT MAKE UP THE ZODIAC STONE—A LEGENDARY TALISMAN WITH THE POWER TO LET ITS USER SEE THE FUTURE! SO FAR, MICKEY AND SCROOGE ARE HALFWAY THERE—WITH SIX PENDANTS SAFELY IN THEIR POSSESSION! BUT WILL OUR HEROES STAY SAFE SECURING THE REST?
5-1786

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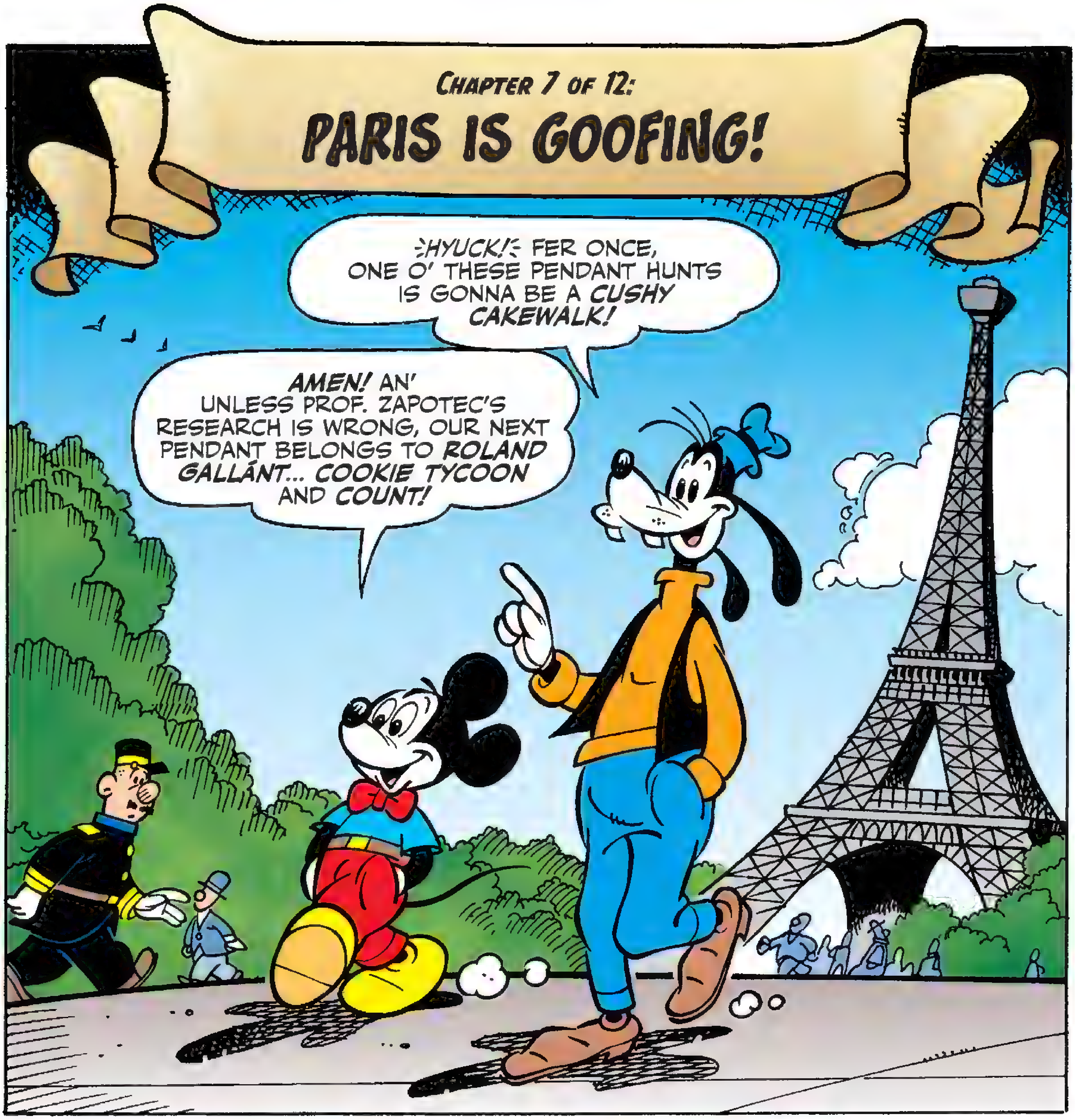
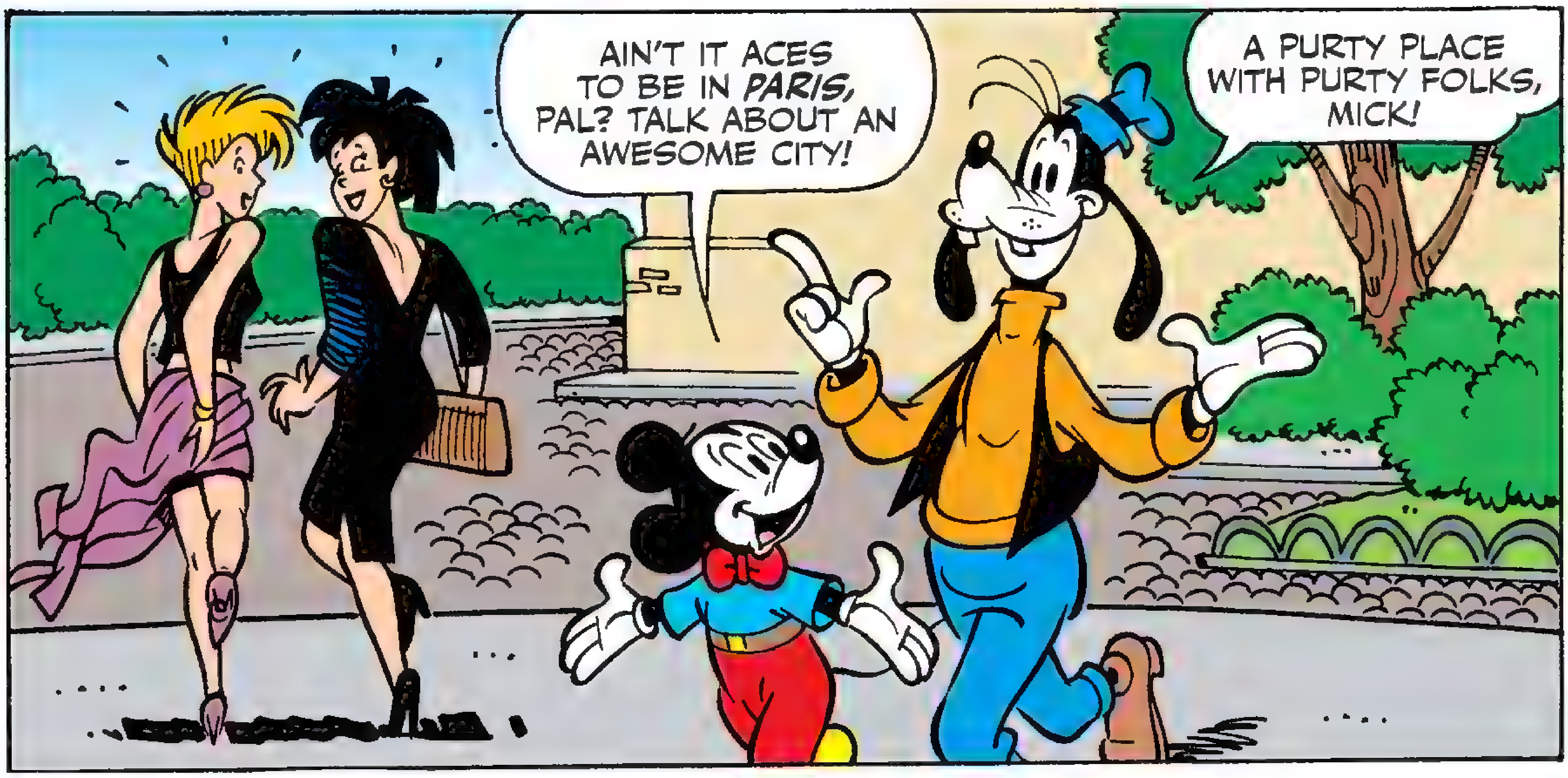
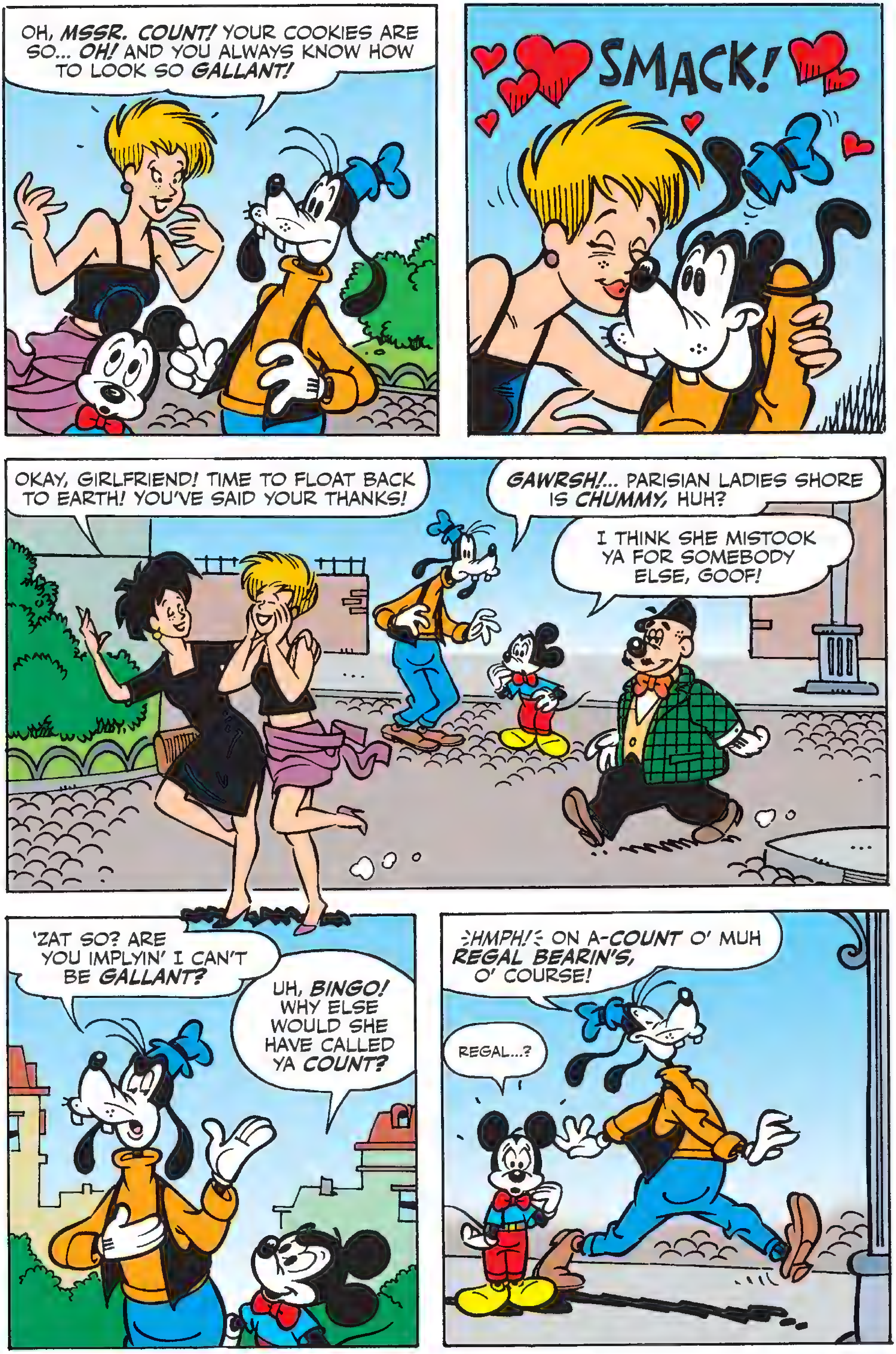
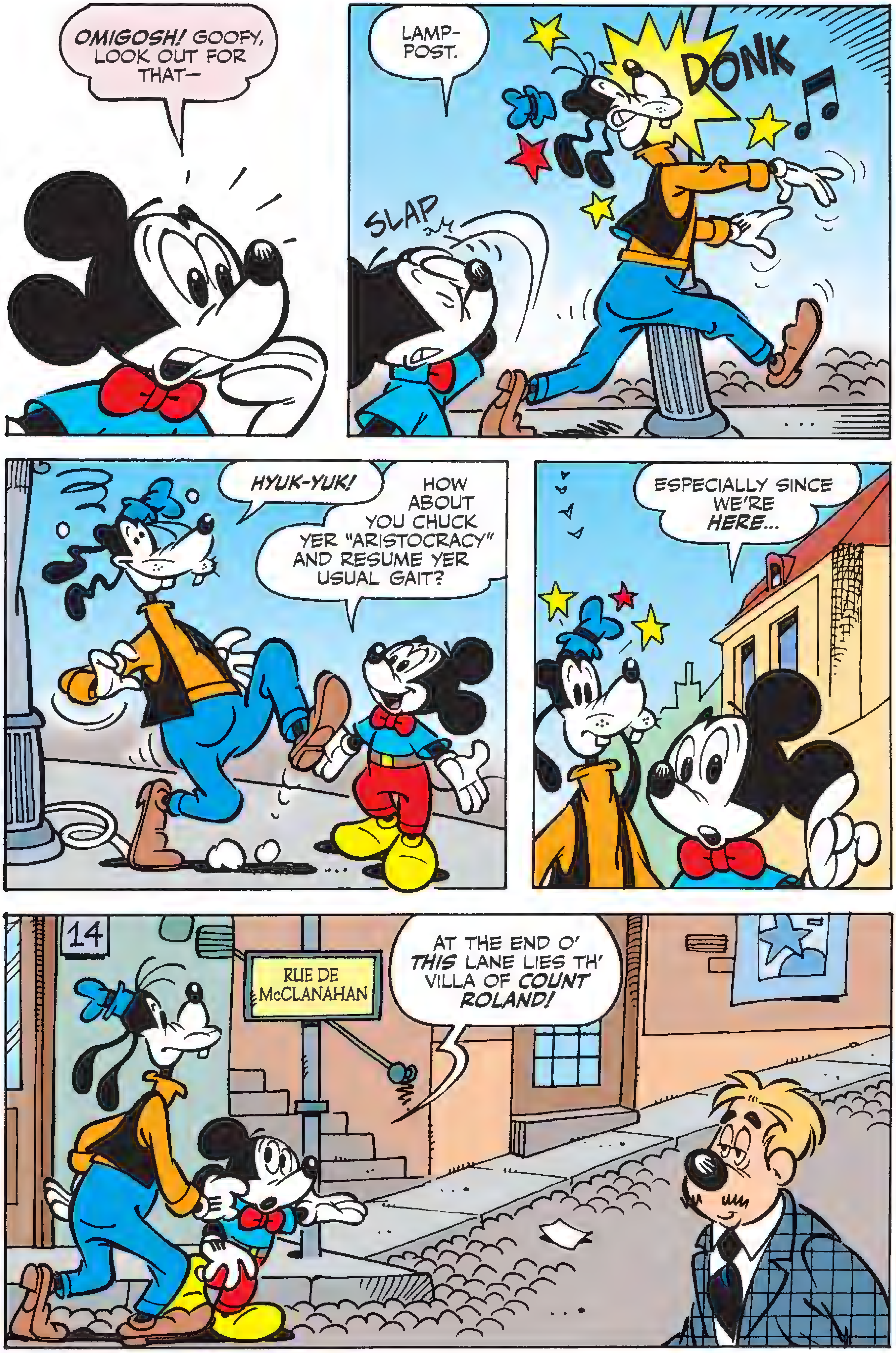
CHAPTER 7 OF 12:

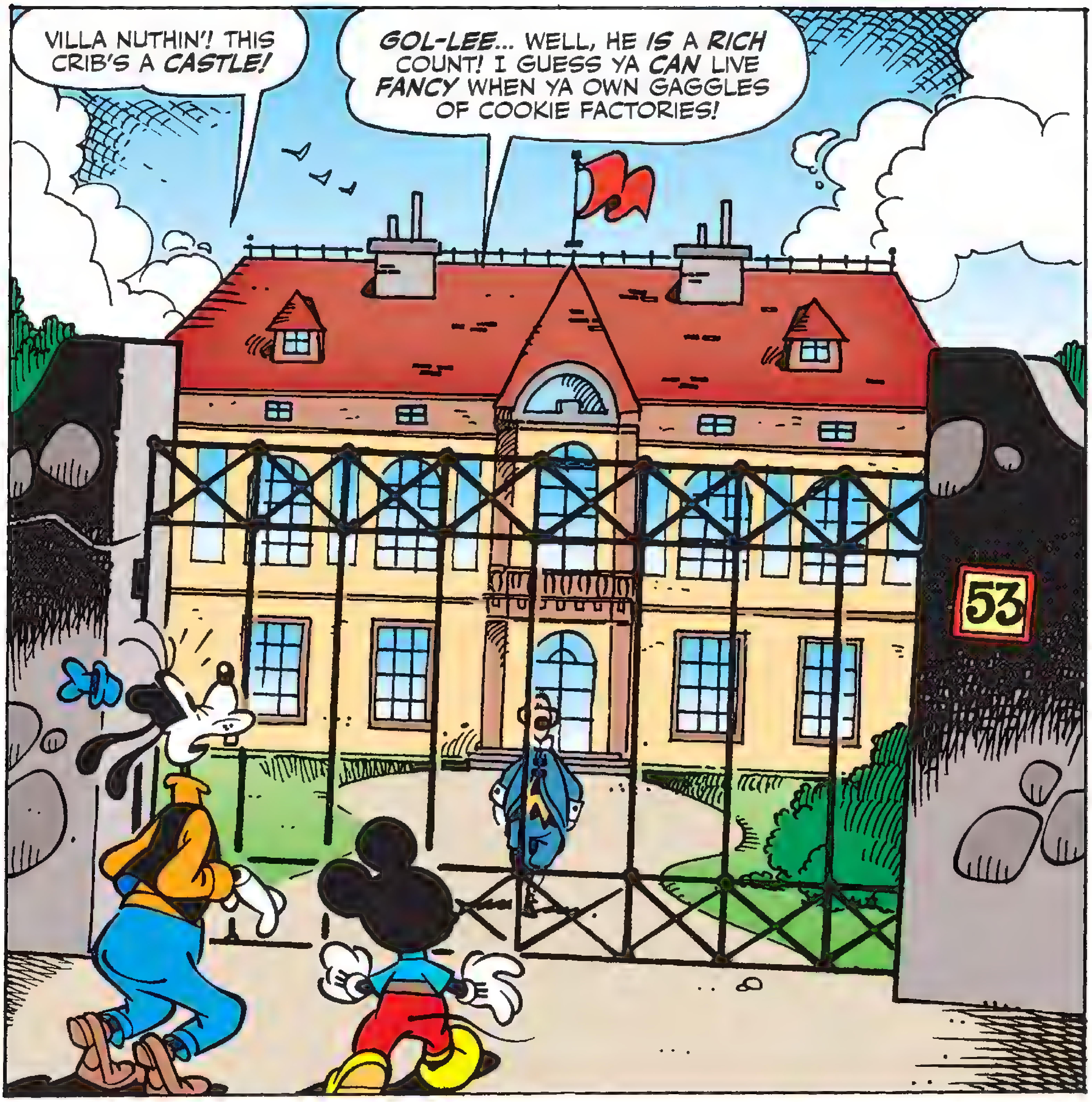
PARIS IS GOOFING!

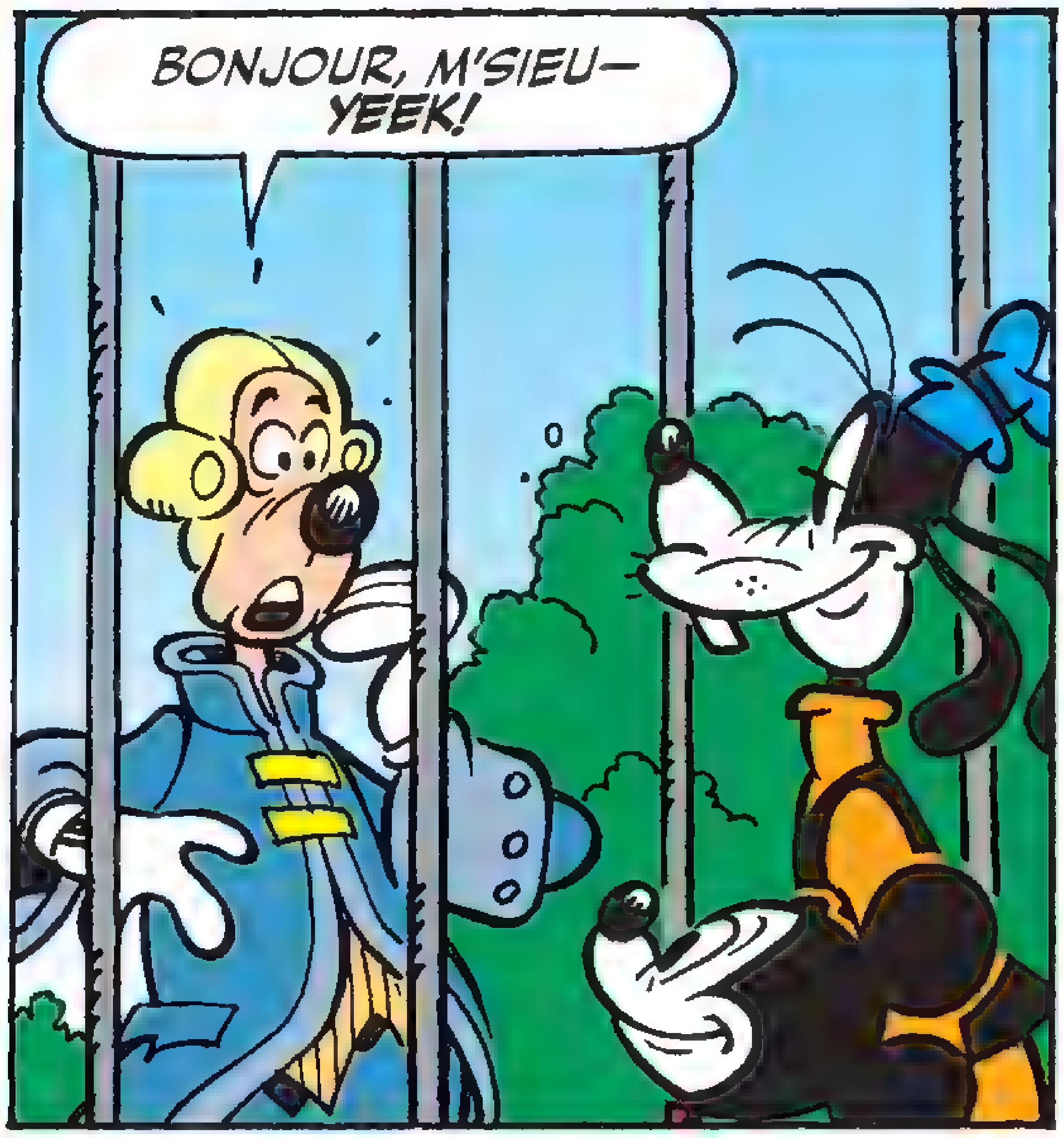

HYUCK! FER ONCE, ONE O' THESE PENDANT HUNTS IS GONNA BE A *CUSHY CAKEWALK!*
AMEN! AN' UNLESS PROF. ZAPOTEC'S RESEARCH IS WRONG, OUR NEXT PENDANT BELONGS TO *ROLAND GALLANT... COOKIE TYCOON* AND *COUNT!*

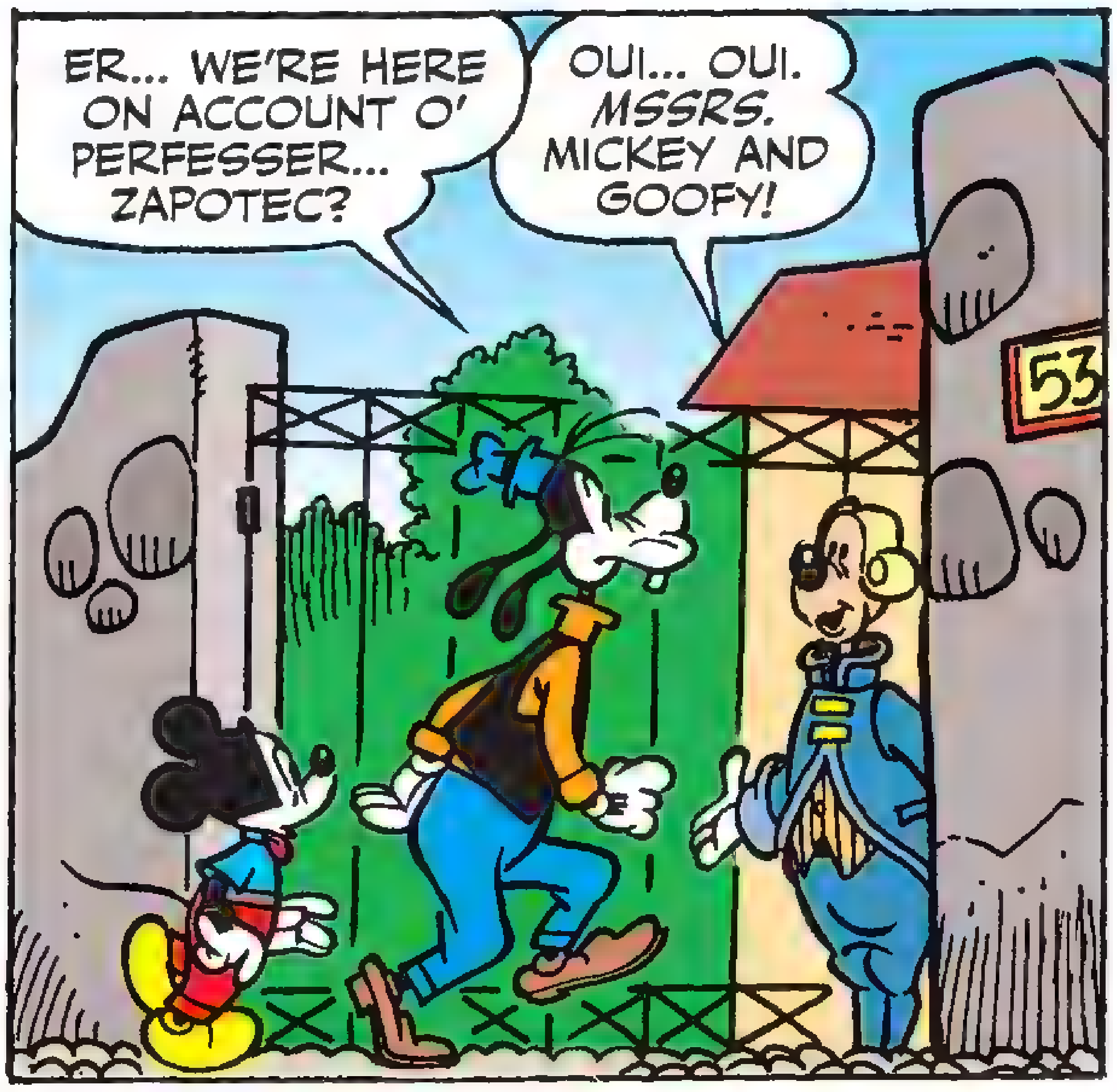

AIN'T IT ACES TO BE IN *PARIS,* PAL? TALK ABOUT AN AWESOME CITY!
A PURTY PLACE WITH PURTY FOLKS, MICK!

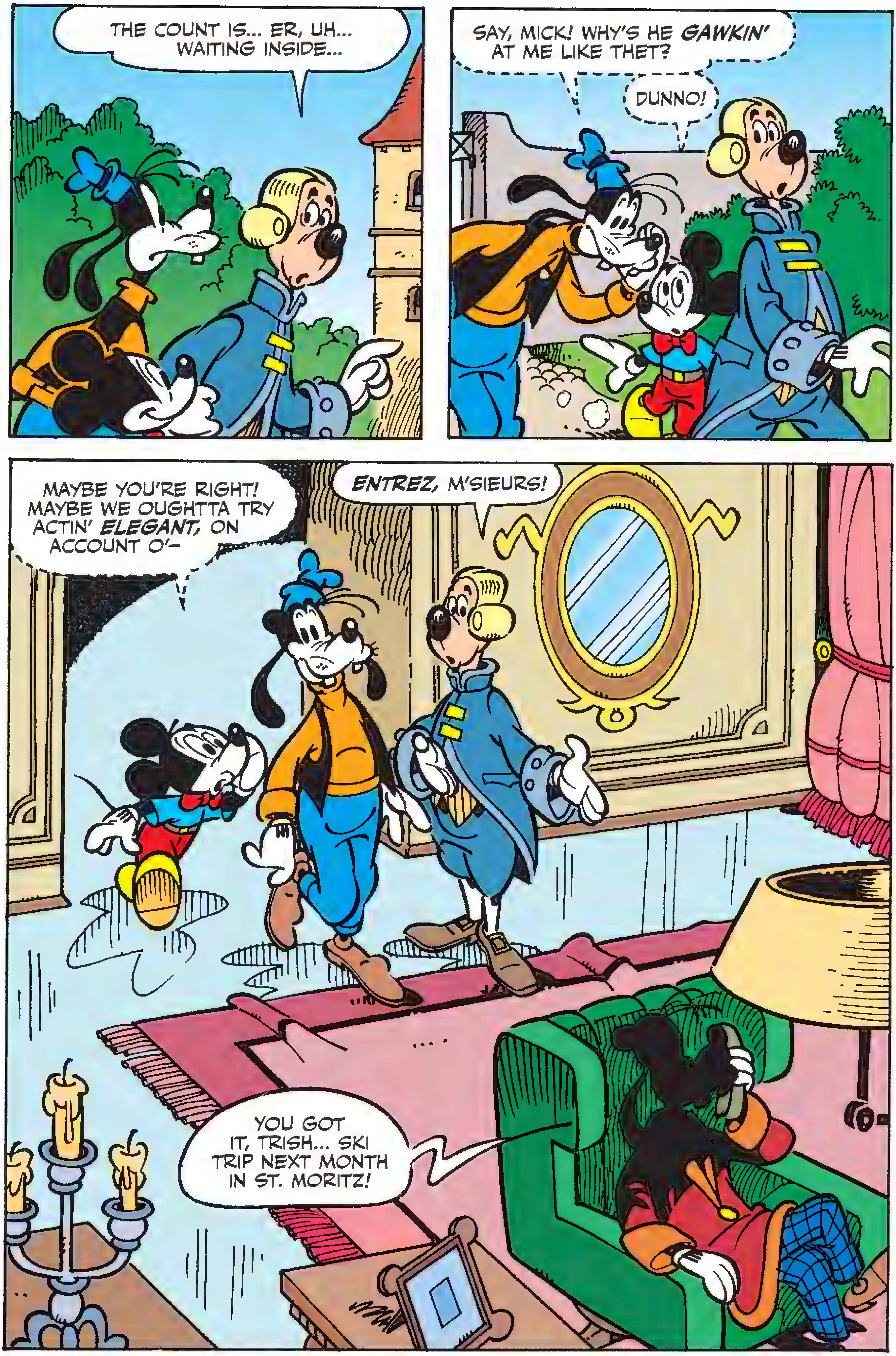

OH, MSSR. COUNT! YOUR COOKIES ARE SO... OH! AND YOU ALWAYS KNOW HOW TO LOOK SO GALLANT!
SMACK!
OKAY, GIRLFRIEND! TIME TO FLOAT BACK TO EARTH! YOU'VE SAID YOUR THANKS!
GAWRSH!... PARISIAN LADIES SHORE IS CHUMMY, HUH?
I THINK SHE MISTOOK YA FOR SOMEBODY ELSE, GOOF!
'ZAT SO? ARE YOU IMPLYIN' I CAN'T BE GALLANT?
UH, BINGO! WHY ELSE WOULD SHE HAVE CALLED YA COUNT?
HMPH! ON A-COUNT O' MUH REGAL BEARIN'S, O' COURSE!
REGAL...?

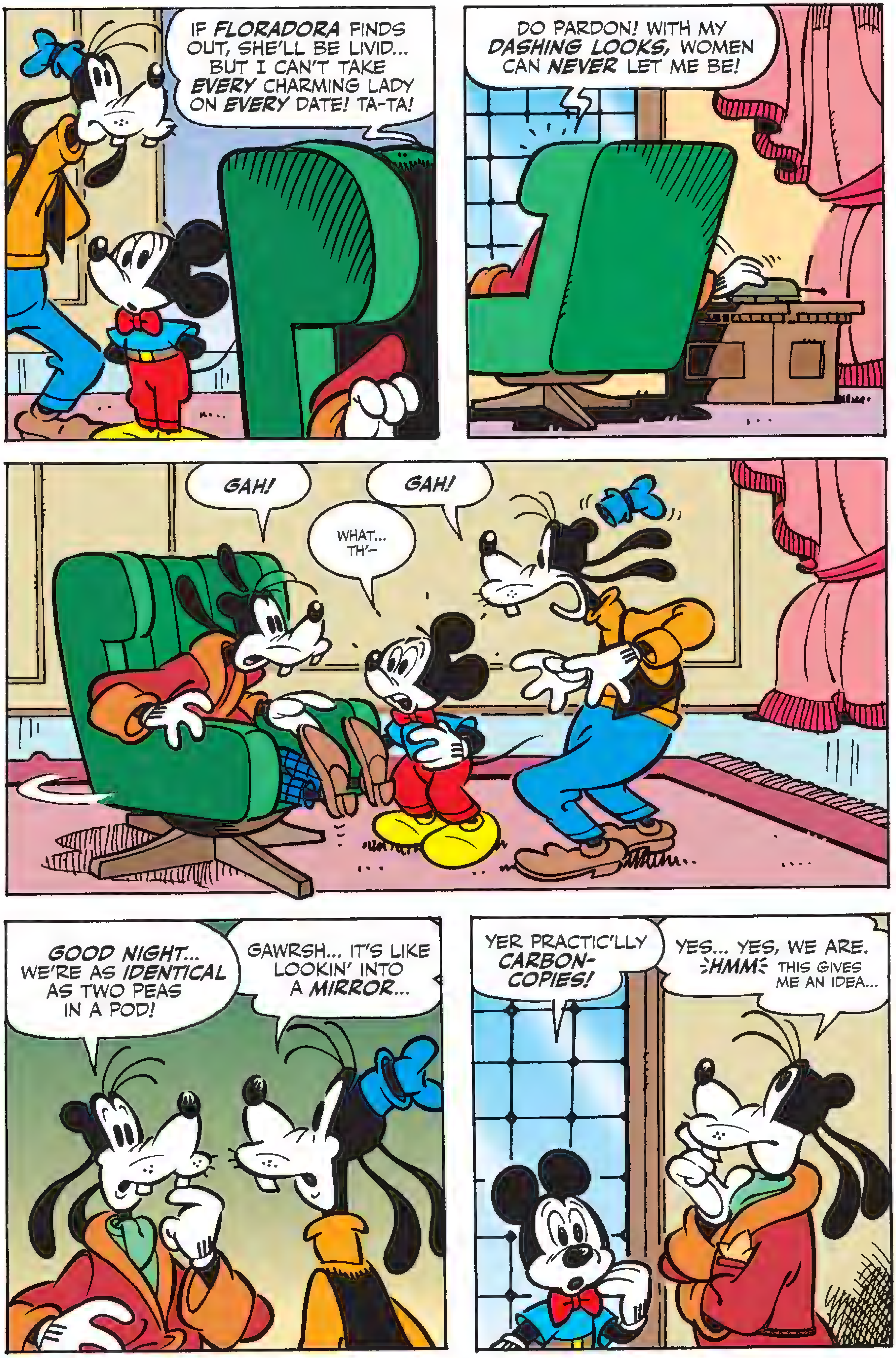

OMIGOSH! GOOFY, LOOK OUT FOR THAT—
LAMP-POST.
DONK
SLAP
HYUK-YUK!
HOW ABOUT YOU CHUCK YER "ARISTOCRACY" AND RESUME YER USUAL GAIT?
ESPECIALLY SINCE WE'RE HERE...
14
RUE DE McCLANAHAN
AT THE END O' THIS LANE LIES TH' VILLA OF COUNT ROLAND!

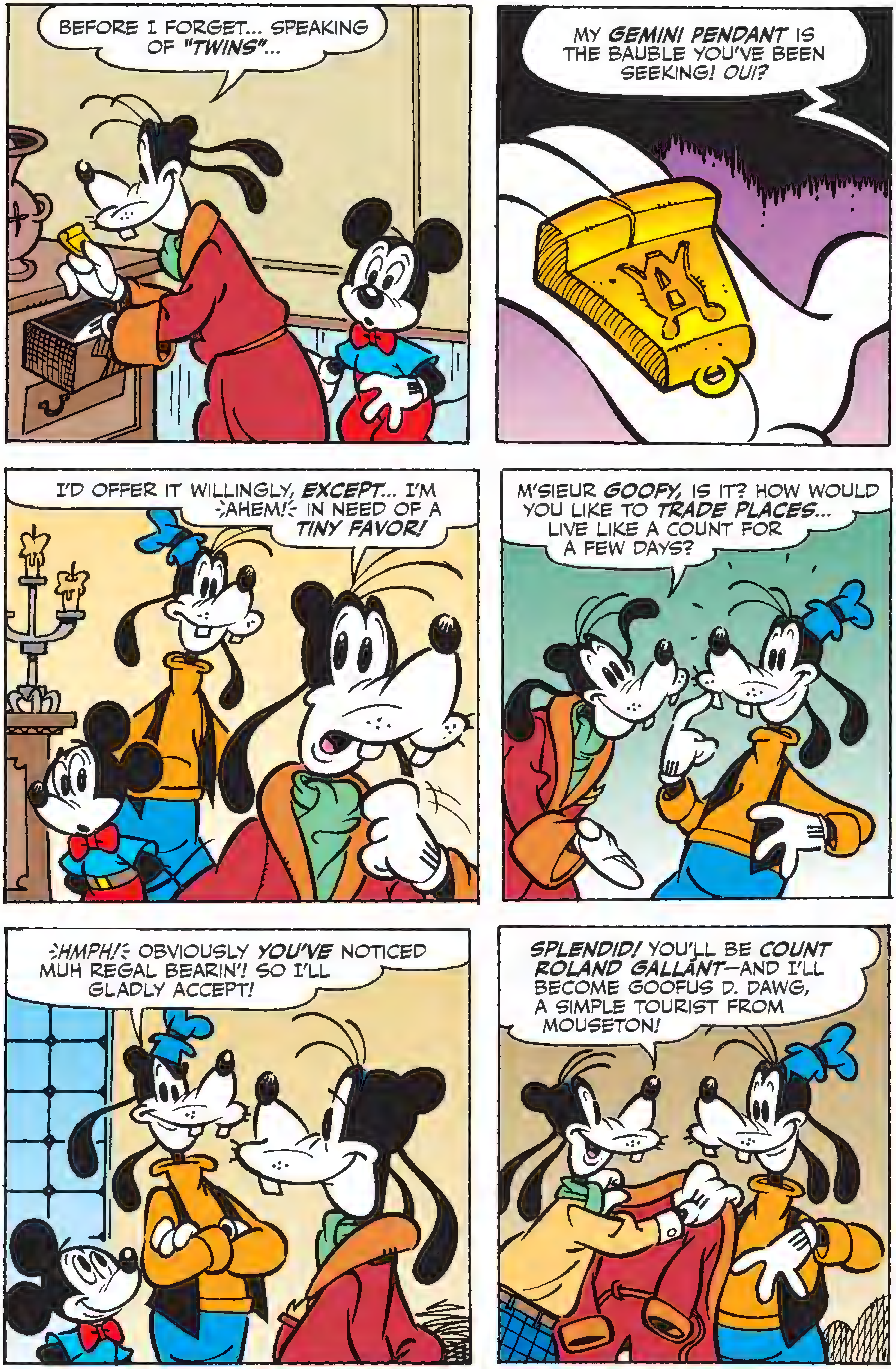

VILLA NUTHIN'! THIS CRIB'S A *CASTLE!*
GOL-LEE... WELL, HE *IS* A *RICH* COUNT! I GUESS YA *CAN* LIVE *FANCY* WHEN YA OWN GAGGLES OF COOKIE FACTORIES!
53

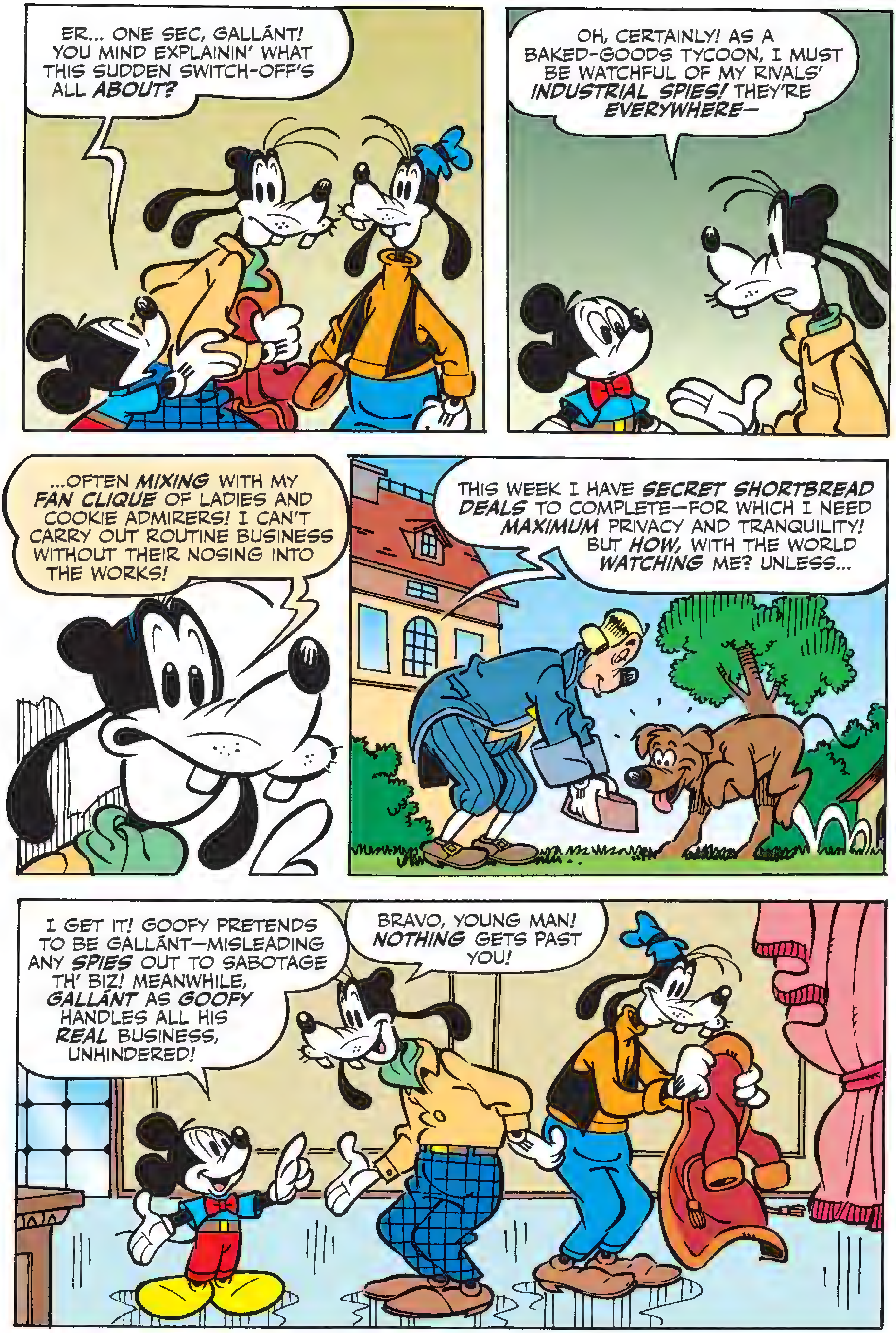

BONJOUR, M'SIEU— YEEK!

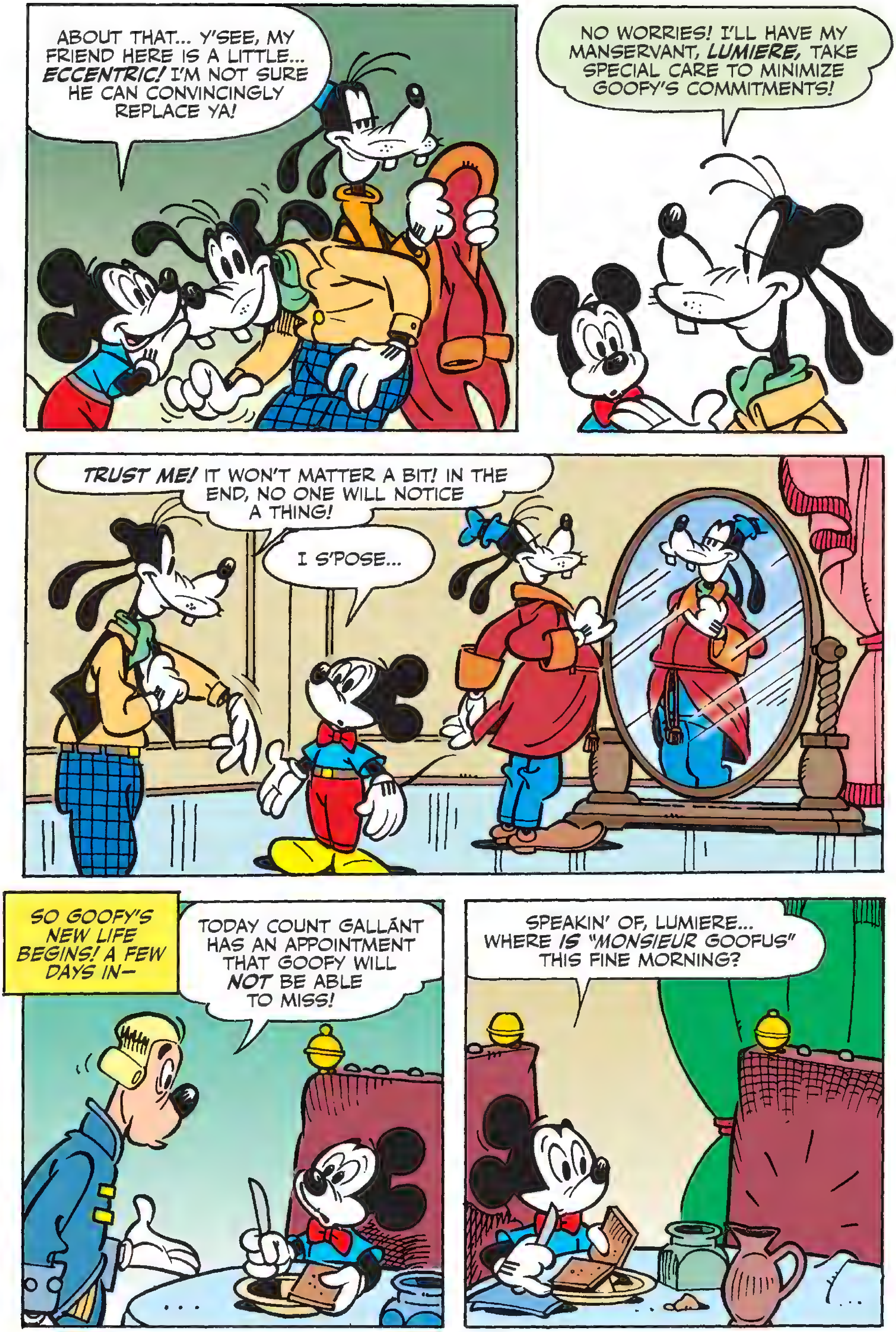

ER... WE'RE HERE ON ACCOUNT O' PERFESSER... ZAPOTEC?
OUI... OUI. *MSSRS.* MICKEY AND GOOFY!
53

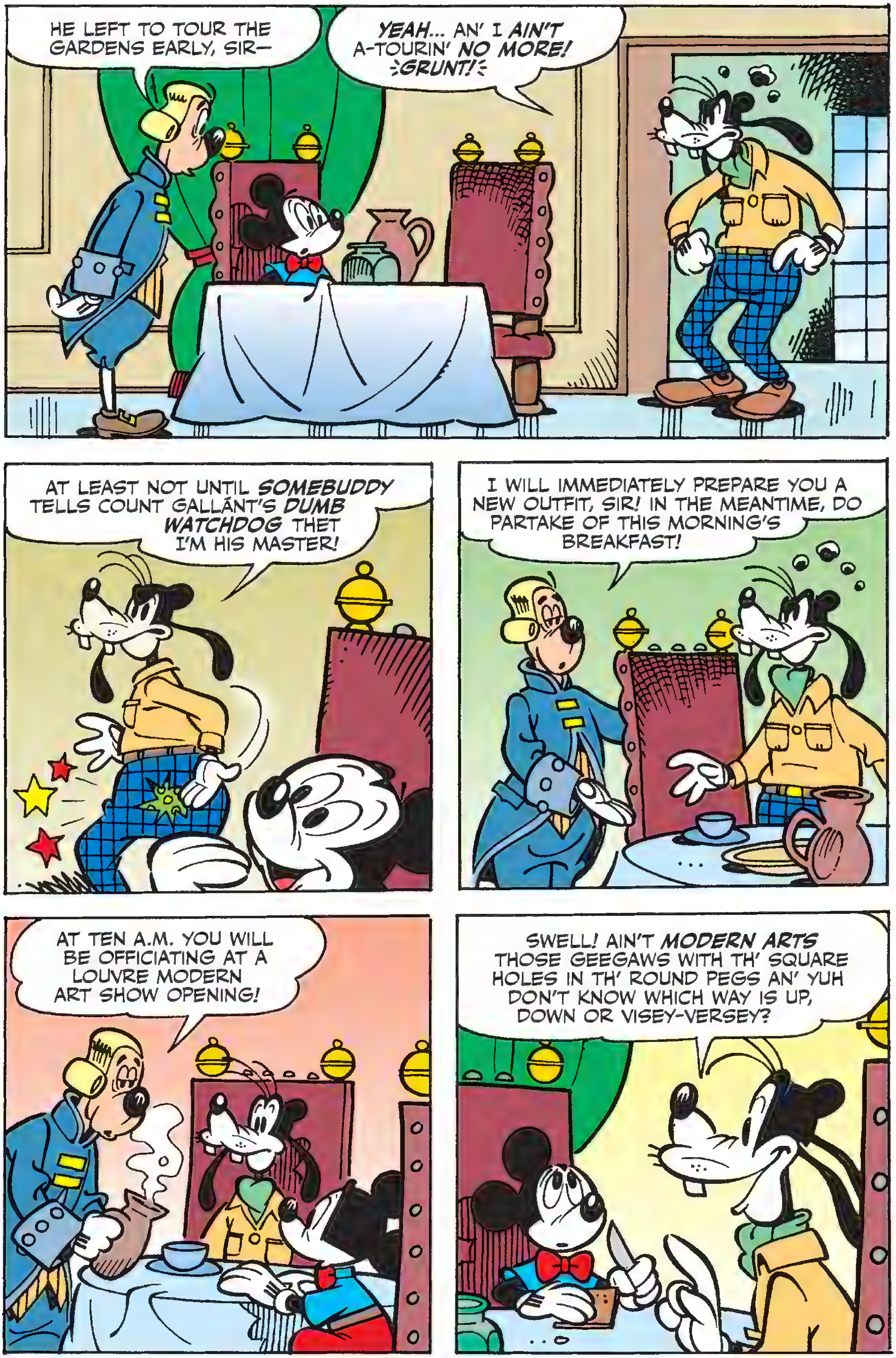

THE COUNT IS... ER, UH... WAITING INSIDE...
SAY, MICK! WHY'S HE *GAWKIN'* AT ME LIKE THET?
DUNNO!
MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT! MAYBE WE OUGHTTA TRY ACTIN' *ELEGANT,* ON ACCOUNT O'–
ENTREZ, M'SIEURS!
YOU GOT IT, TRISH... SKI TRIP NEXT MONTH IN ST. MORITZ!

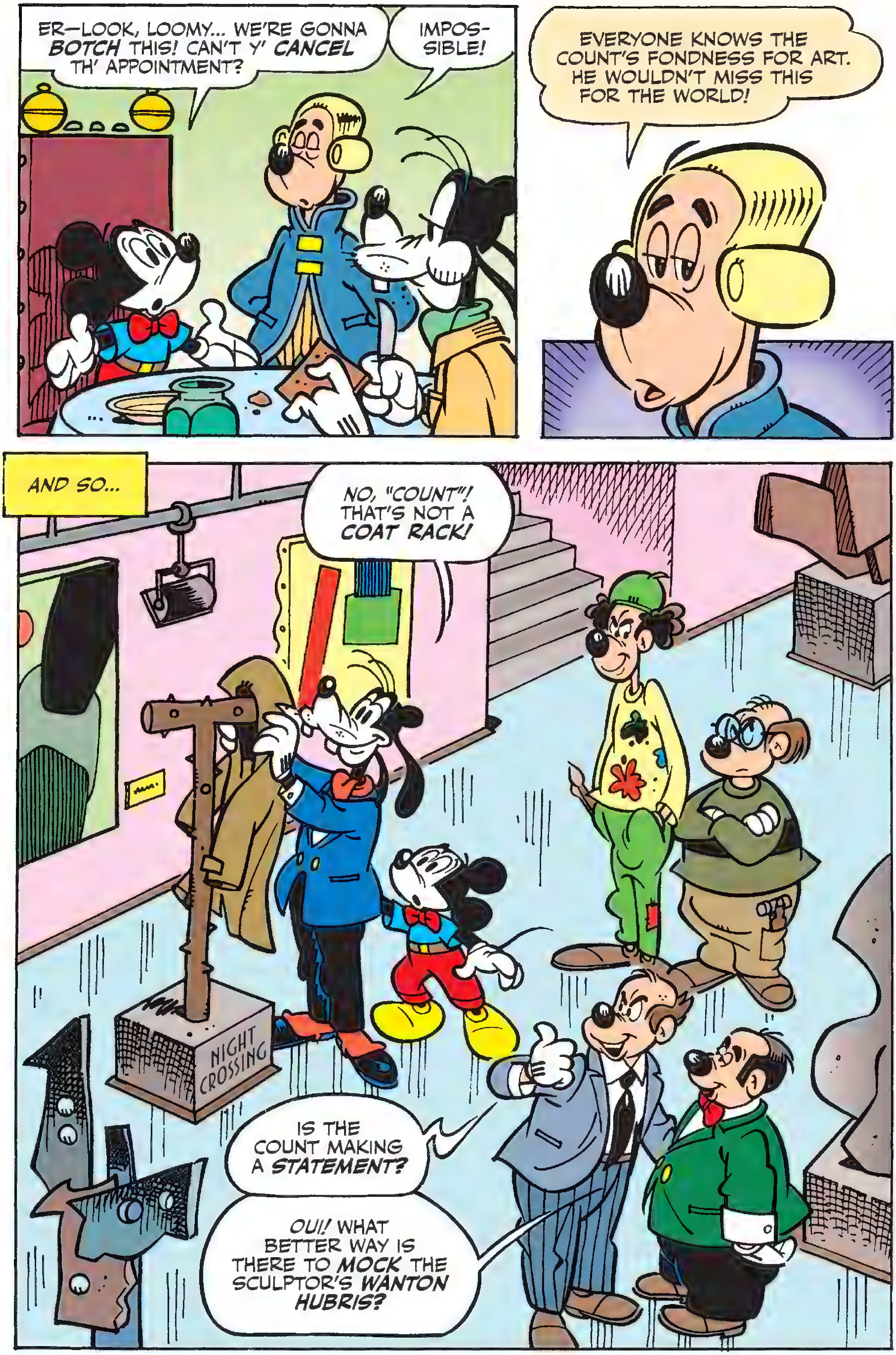

IF FLORADORA FINDS OUT, SHE'LL BE LIVID... BUT I CAN'T TAKE EVERY CHARMING LADY ON EVERY DATE! TA-TA!
DO PARDON! WITH MY DASHING LOOKS, WOMEN CAN NEVER LET ME BE!
GAH!
WHAT... TH'–
GAH!
GOOD NIGHT... WE'RE AS IDENTICAL AS TWO PEAS IN A POD!
GAWRSH... IT'S LIKE LOOKIN' INTO A MIRROR...
YER PRACTIC'LLY CARBON-COPIES!
YES... YES, WE ARE. HMM THIS GIVES ME AN IDEA...

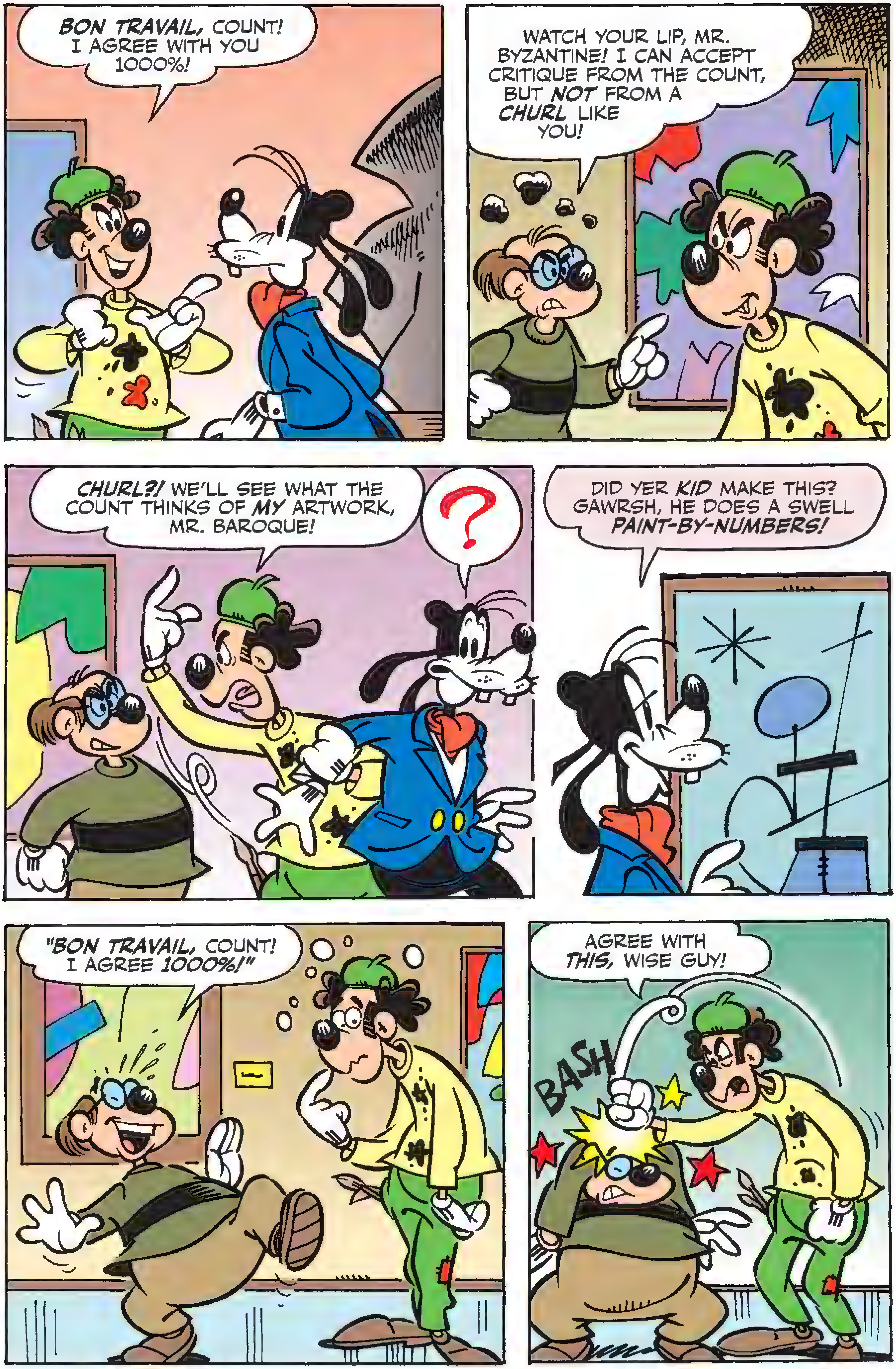

BEFORE I FORGET... SPEAKING OF "TWINS"...
MY GEMINI PENDANT IS THE BAUBLE YOU'VE BEEN SEEKING! OUI?
I'D OFFER IT WILLINGLY, EXCEPT... I'M ⸗AHEM!⸗ IN NEED OF A TINY FAVOR!
M'SIEUR GOOFY, IS IT? HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRADE PLACES... LIVE LIKE A COUNT FOR A FEW DAYS?
⸗HMPH!⸗ OBVIOUSLY YOU'VE NOTICED MUH REGAL BEARIN'! SO I'LL GLADLY ACCEPT!
SPLENDID! YOU'LL BE COUNT ROLAND GALLANT—AND I'LL BECOME GOOFUS D. DAWG, A SIMPLE TOURIST FROM MOUSETON!

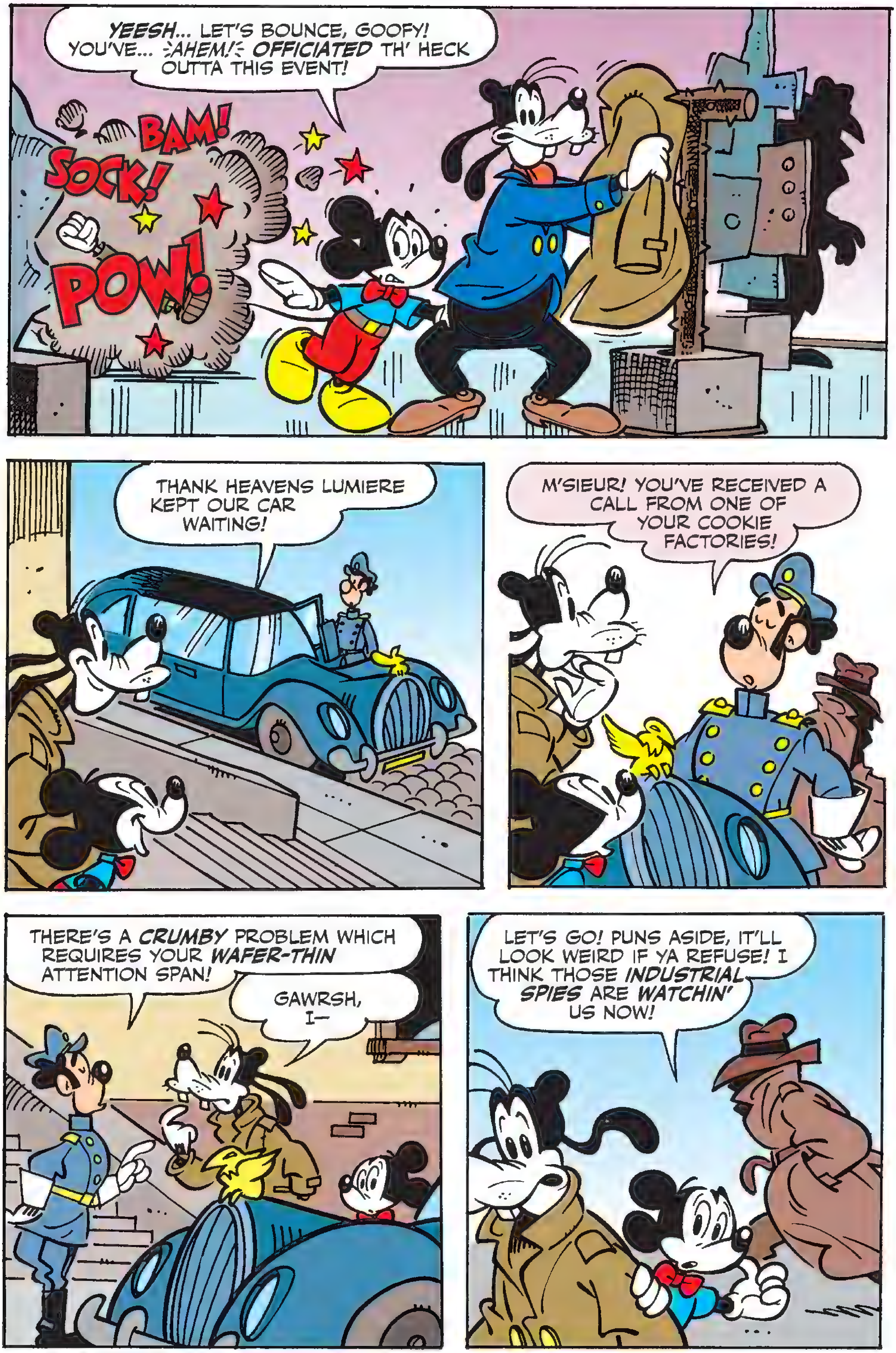

ER... ONE SEC, GALLÃNT! YOU MIND EXPLAININ' WHAT THIS SUDDEN SWITCH-OFF'S ALL *ABOUT?*
OH, CERTAINLY! AS A BAKED-GOODS TYCOON, I MUST BE WATCHFUL OF MY RIVALS' *INDUSTRIAL SPIES!* THEY'RE *EVERYWHERE*–
...OFTEN *MIXING* WITH MY *FAN CLIQUE* OF LADIES AND COOKIE ADMIRERS! I CAN'T CARRY OUT ROUTINE BUSINESS WITHOUT THEIR NOSING INTO THE WORKS!
THIS WEEK I HAVE *SECRET SHORTBREAD DEALS* TO COMPLETE–FOR WHICH I NEED *MAXIMUM* PRIVACY AND TRANQUILITY! BUT *HOW,* WITH THE WORLD *WATCHING* ME? UNLESS...
I GET IT! GOOFY PRETENDS TO BE GALLÃNT–MISLEADING ANY *SPIES* OUT TO SABOTAGE TH' BIZ! MEANWHILE, *GALLÃNT* AS *GOOFY* HANDLES ALL HIS *REAL* BUSINESS, UNHINDERED!
BRAVO, YOUNG MAN! *NOTHING* GETS PAST YOU!

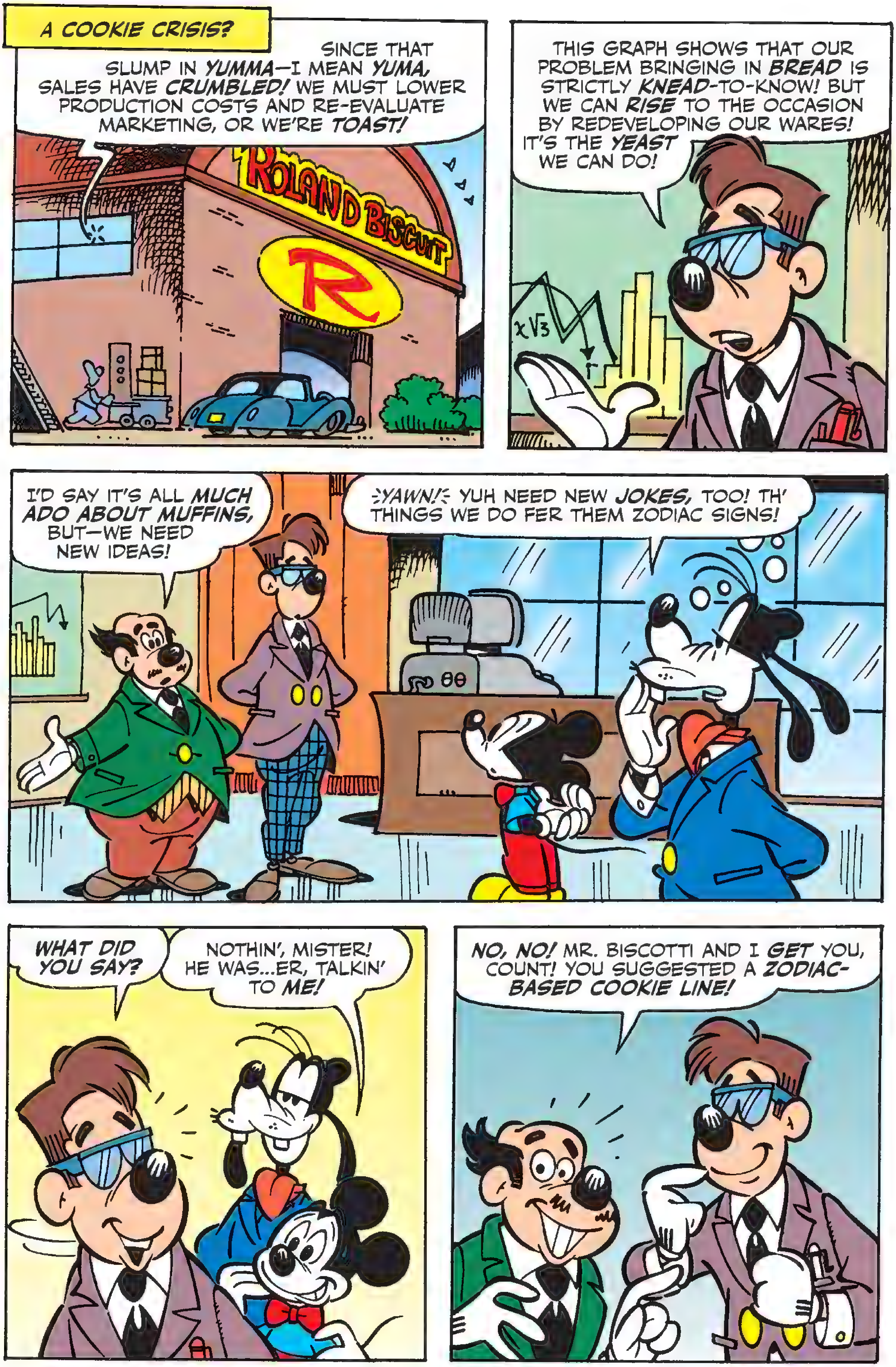

ABOUT THAT... Y'SEE, MY FRIEND HERE IS A LITTLE... *ECCENTRIC!* I'M NOT SURE HE CAN CONVINCINGLY REPLACE YA!
NO WORRIES! I'LL HAVE MY MANSERVANT, *LUMIERE,* TAKE SPECIAL CARE TO MINIMIZE GOOFY'S COMMITMENTS!
TRUST ME! IT WON'T MATTER A BIT! IN THE END, NO ONE WILL NOTICE A THING!
I S'POSE...
SO GOOFY'S NEW LIFE BEGINS! A FEW DAYS IN–
TODAY COUNT GALLÁNT HAS AN APPOINTMENT THAT GOOFY WILL *NOT* BE ABLE TO MISS!
. . .
SPEAKIN' OF, LUMIERE... WHERE *IS "MONSIEUR* GOOFUS" THIS FINE MORNING?
. . .

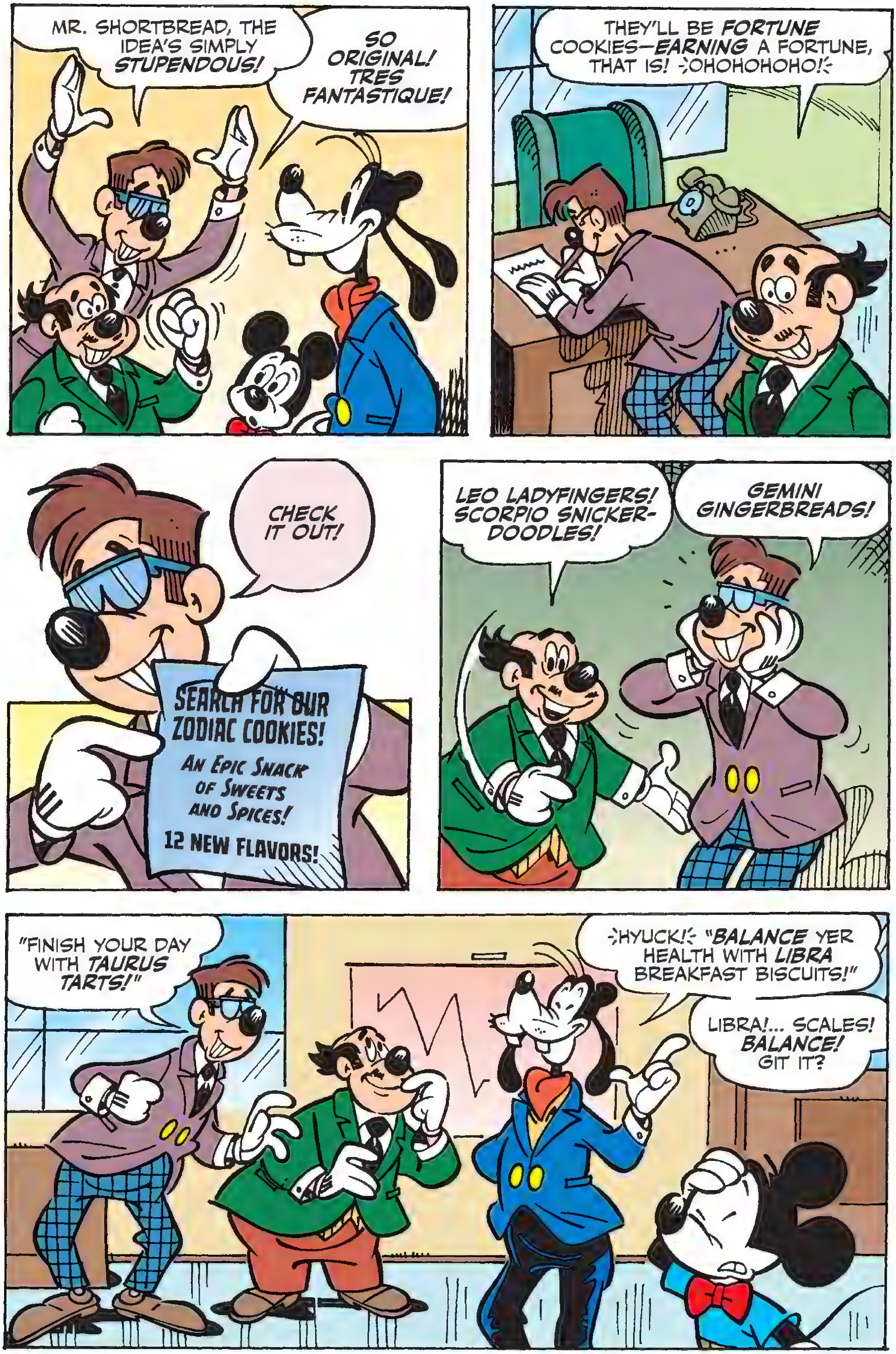

HE LEFT TO TOUR THE GARDENS EARLY, SIR—
YEAH... AN' I *AIN'T* A-TOURIN' *NO MORE!* *GRUNT!*
AT LEAST NOT UNTIL *SOMEBUDDY* TELLS COUNT GALLÄNT'S *DUMB WATCHDOG* THET I'M HIS MASTER!
I WILL IMMEDIATELY PREPARE YOU A NEW OUTFIT, SIR! IN THE MEANTIME, DO PARTAKE OF THIS MORNING'S BREAKFAST!
AT TEN A.M. YOU WILL BE OFFICIATING AT A LOUVRE MODERN ART SHOW OPENING!
SWELL! AIN'T *MODERN ARTS* THOSE GEEGAWS WITH TH' SQUARE HOLES IN TH' ROUND PEGS AN' YUH DON'T KNOW WHICH WAY IS UP, DOWN OR VISEY-VERSEY?

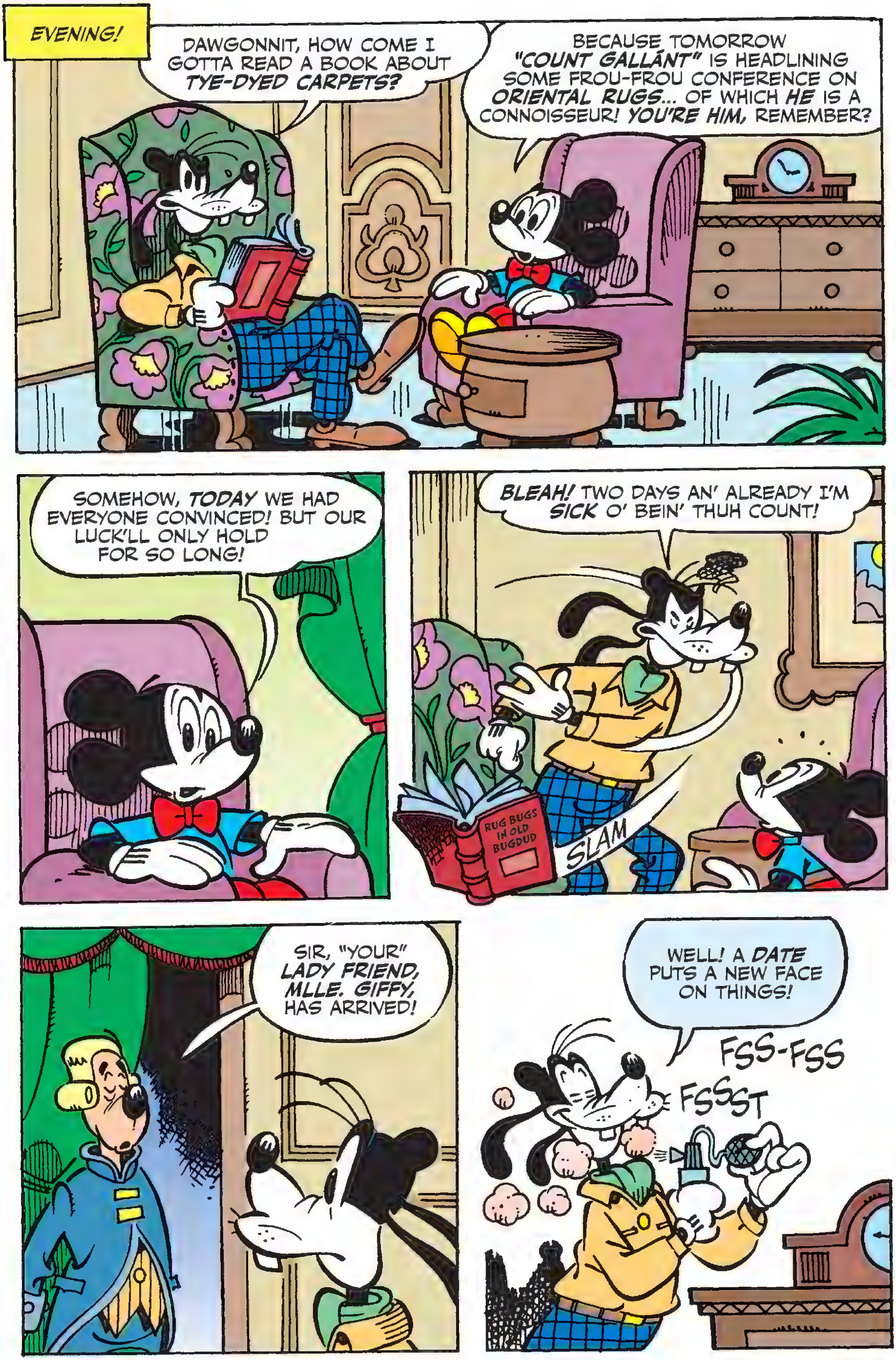

ER—LOOK, LOOMY... WE'RE GONNA *BOTCH* THIS! CAN'T Y' *CANCEL* TH' APPOINTMENT?
IMPOS-SIBLE!
EVERYONE KNOWS THE COUNT'S FONDNESS FOR ART. HE WOULDN'T MISS THIS FOR THE WORLD!
AND SO...
NO, "COUNT"! THAT'S NOT A *COAT RACK!*
NIGHT CROSSING
IS THE COUNT MAKING A *STATEMENT?*
OUI! WHAT BETTER WAY IS THERE TO *MOCK* THE SCULPTOR'S *WANTON HUBRIS?*

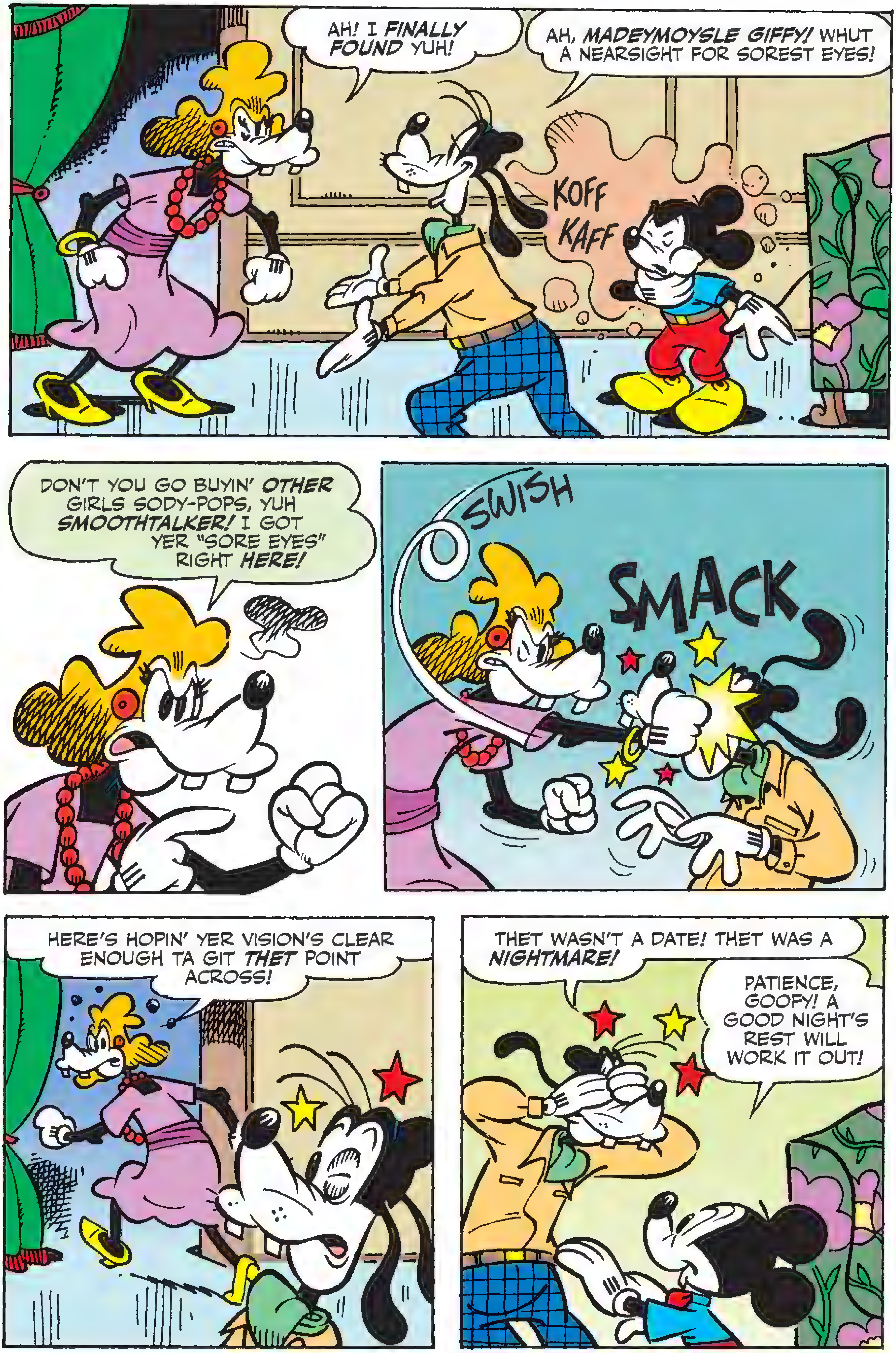

BON TRAVAIL, COUNT! I AGREE WITH YOU 1000%!
WATCH YOUR LIP, MR. BYZANTINE! I CAN ACCEPT CRITIQUE FROM THE COUNT, BUT *NOT* FROM A *CHURL* LIKE YOU!
CHURL?! WE'LL SEE WHAT THE COUNT THINKS OF *MY* ARTWORK, MR. BAROQUE!
?
DID YER *KID* MAKE THIS? GAWRSH, HE DOES A SWELL *PAINT-BY-NUMBERS!*
"*BON TRAVAIL,* COUNT! I AGREE *1000%!*"
AGREE WITH *THIS,* WISE GUY!
BASH

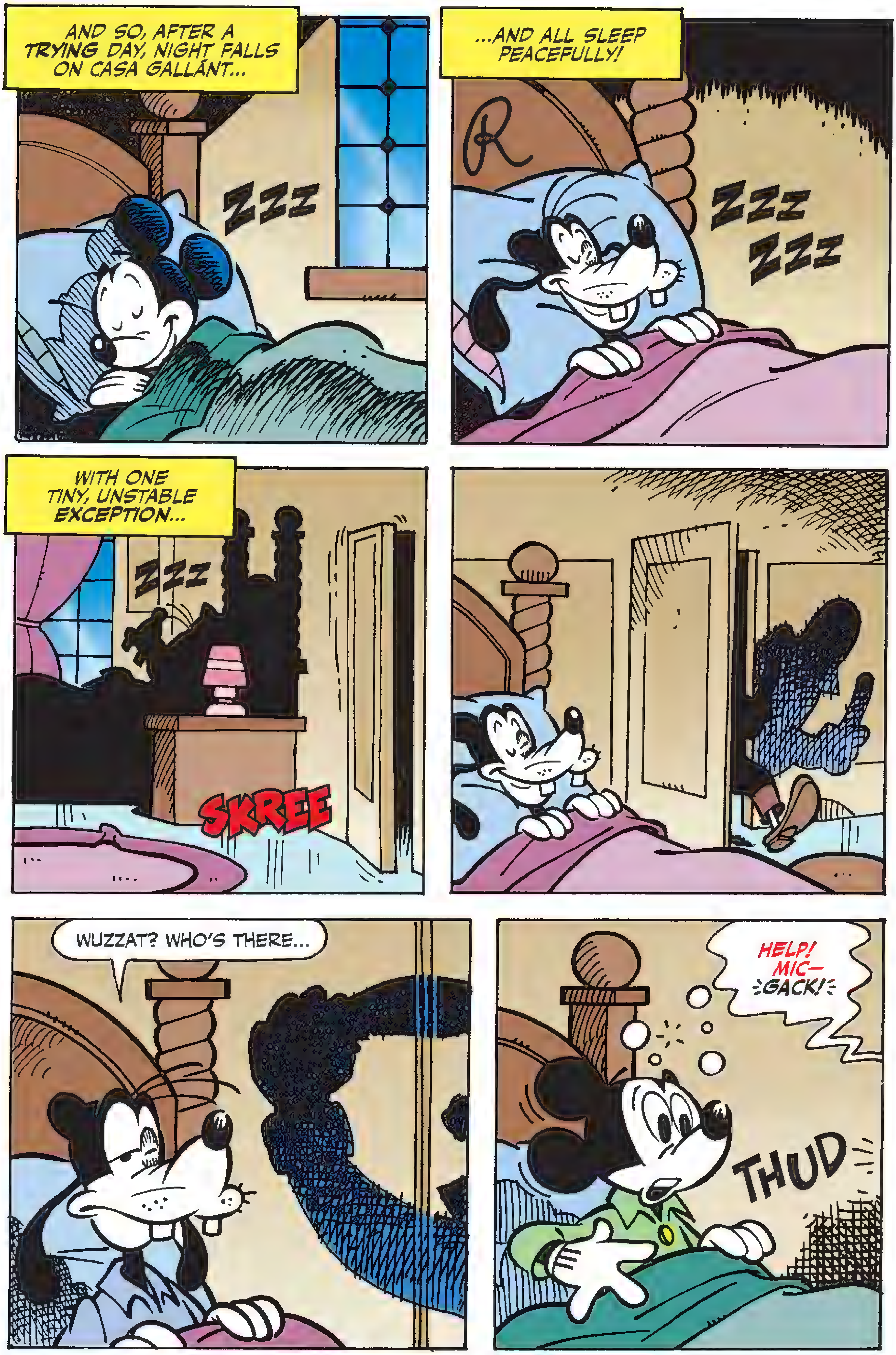

YEESH... LET'S BOUNCE, GOOFY! YOU'VE... *AHEM!* *OFFICIATED* TH' HECK OUTTA THIS EVENT!
BAM!
SOCK!
POW!
THANK HEAVENS LUMIERE KEPT OUR CAR WAITING!
M'SIEUR! YOU'VE RECEIVED A CALL FROM ONE OF YOUR COOKIE FACTORIES!
THERE'S A *CRUMBY* PROBLEM WHICH REQUIRES YOUR *WAFER-THIN* ATTENTION SPAN!
GAWRSH, I—
LET'S GO! PUNS ASIDE, IT'LL LOOK WEIRD IF YA REFUSE! I THINK THOSE *INDUSTRIAL SPIES* ARE *WATCHIN'* US NOW!

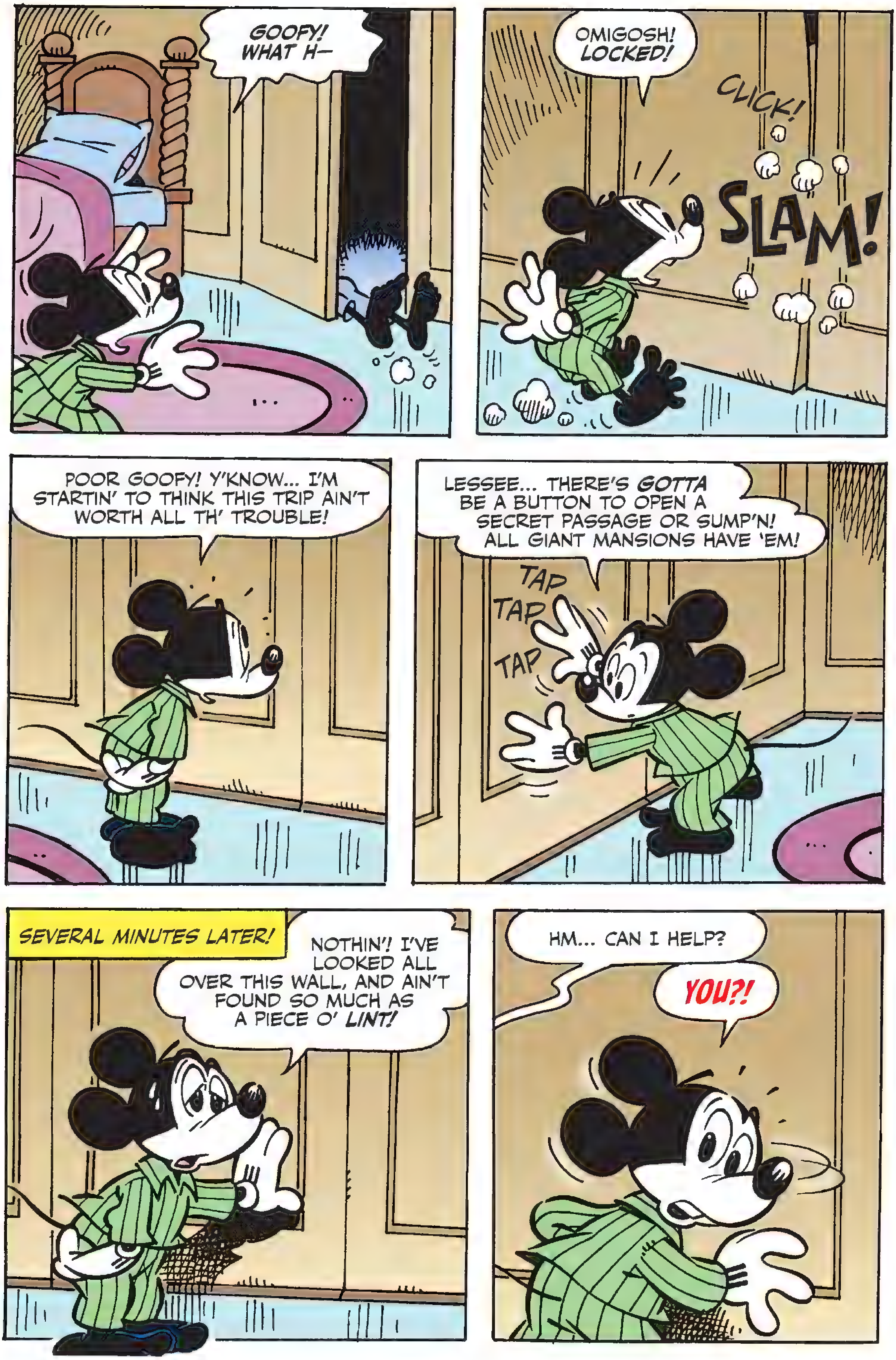

A COOKIE CRISIS?
SINCE THAT SLUMP IN *YUMMA*—I MEAN *YUMA,* SALES HAVE *CRUMBLED!* WE MUST LOWER PRODUCTION COSTS AND RE-EVALUATE MARKETING, OR WE'RE *TOAST!*
ROLAND BISCUIT
R
THIS GRAPH SHOWS THAT OUR PROBLEM BRINGING IN *BREAD* IS STRICTLY *KNEAD*-TO-KNOW! BUT WE CAN *RISE* TO THE OCCASION BY REDEVELOPING OUR WARES! IT'S THE *YEAST* WE CAN DO!
x√3
I'D SAY IT'S ALL *MUCH ADO ABOUT MUFFINS,* BUT—WE NEED NEW IDEAS!
YAWN! YUH NEED NEW *JOKES,* TOO! TH' THINGS WE DO FER THEM ZODIAC SIGNS!
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
NOTHIN', MISTER! HE WAS...ER, TALKIN' TO *ME!*
NO, NO! MR. BISCOTTI AND I *GET* YOU, COUNT! YOU SUGGESTED A *ZODIAC-BASED COOKIE LINE!*

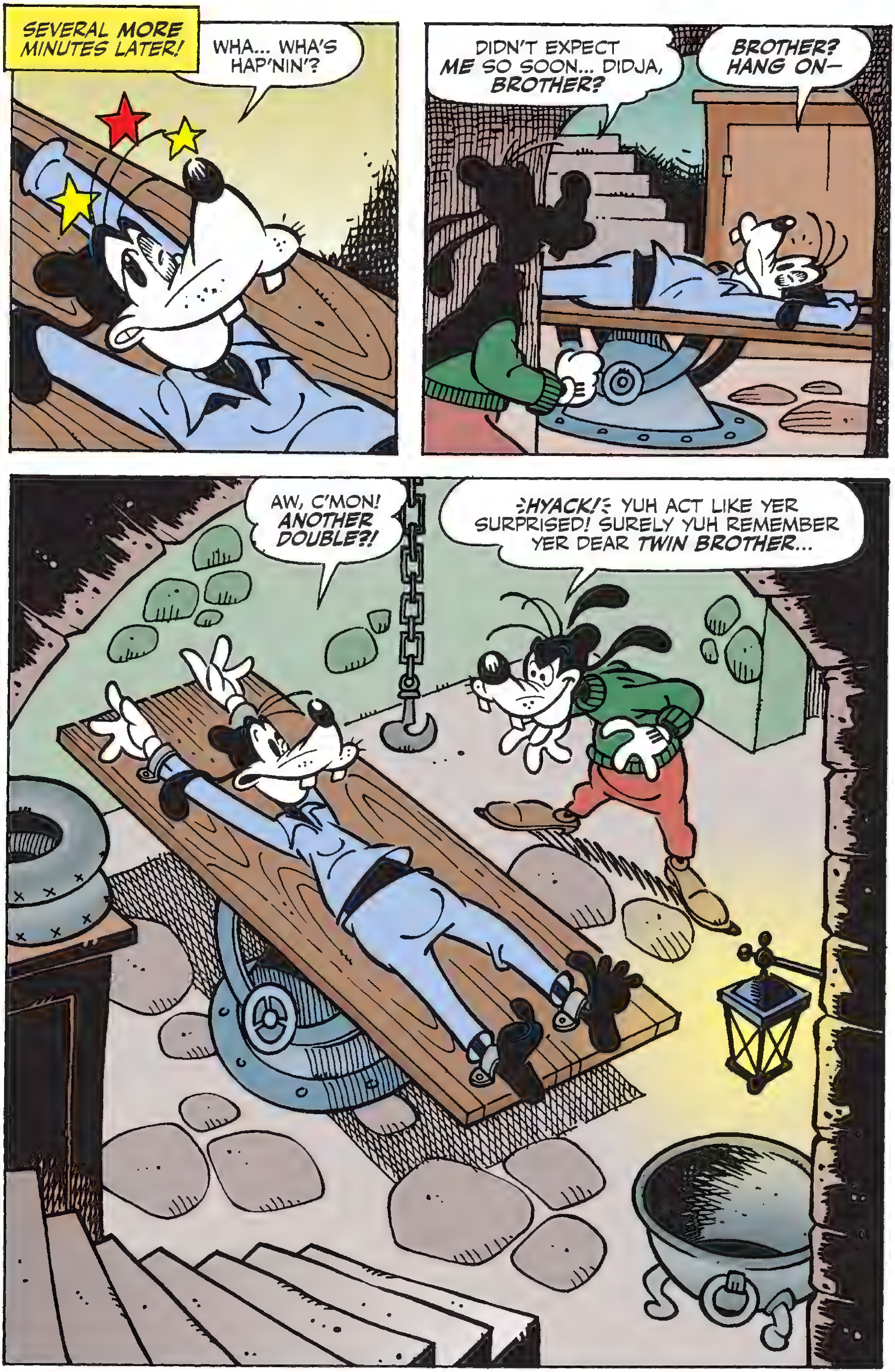

MR. SHORTBREAD, THE IDEA'S SIMPLY *STUPENDOUS!*
SO ORIGINAL! TRES FANTASTIQUE!
THEY'LL BE *FORTUNE* COOKIES—*EARNING* A FORTUNE, THAT IS! ⁘OHOHOHOHO!⁘
CHECK IT OUT!
SEARCH FOR OUR ZODIAC COOKIES!
AN EPIC SNACK OF SWEETS AND SPICES!
12 NEW FLAVORS!
LEO LADYFINGERS! SCORPIO SNICKER-DOODLES!
GEMINI GINGERBREADS!
"FINISH YOUR DAY WITH *TAURUS TARTS!*"
⁘HYUCK!⁘ "*BALANCE* YER HEALTH WITH *LIBRA* BREAKFAST BISCUITS!"
LIBRA!... SCALES! *BALANCE!* GIT IT?

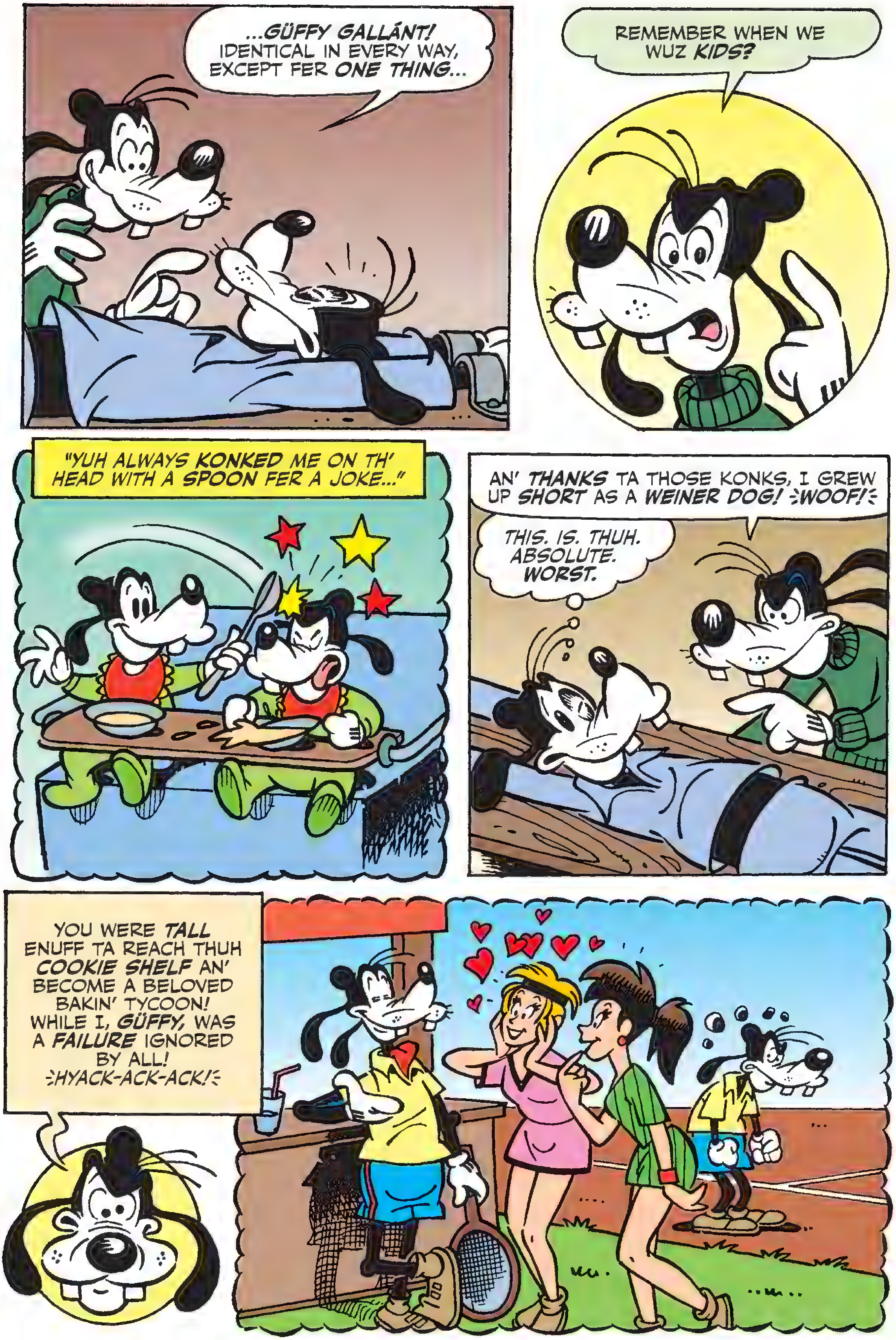

EVENING!
DAWGONNIT, HOW COME I GOTTA READ A BOOK ABOUT *TYE-DYED CARPETS?*
BECAUSE TOMORROW *"COUNT GALLANT"* IS HEADLINING SOME FROU-FROU CONFERENCE ON *ORIENTAL RUGS...* OF WHICH *HE* IS A CONNOISSEUR! *YOU'RE HIM,* REMEMBER?
SOMEHOW, *TODAY* WE HAD EVERYONE CONVINCED! BUT OUR LUCK'LL ONLY HOLD FOR SO LONG!
BLEAH! TWO DAYS AN' ALREADY I'M *SICK* O' BEIN' THUH COUNT!
RUG BUGS IN OLD BUGDUD
SLAM
SIR, "YOUR" *LADY FRIEND, MLLE. GIFFY,* HAS ARRIVED!
WELL! A *DATE* PUTS A NEW FACE ON THINGS!
FSS-FSS
FSSST

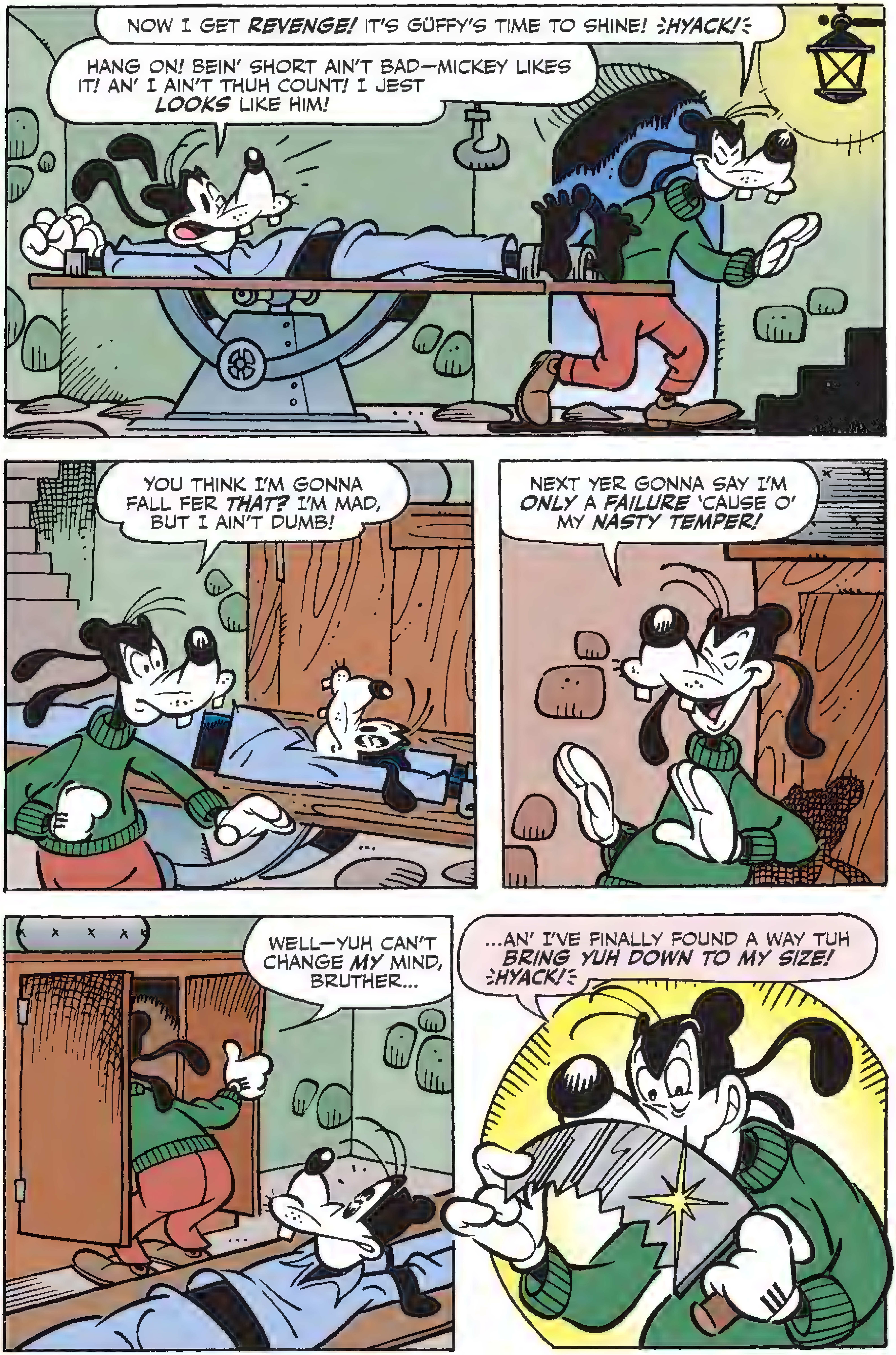

AH! I *FINALLY FOUND* YUH!
AH, *MADEYMOYSLE GIFFY!* WHUT A NEARSIGHT FOR SOREST EYES!
KOFF KAFF
DON'T YOU GO BUYIN' *OTHER* GIRLS SODY-POPS, YUH *SMOOTHTALKER!* I GOT YER "SORE EYES" RIGHT *HERE!*
SWISH
SMACK
HERE'S HOPIN' YER VISION'S CLEAR ENOUGH TA GIT *THET* POINT ACROSS!
THET WASN'T A DATE! THET WAS A *NIGHTMARE!*
PATIENCE, GOOFY! A GOOD NIGHT'S REST WILL WORK IT OUT!

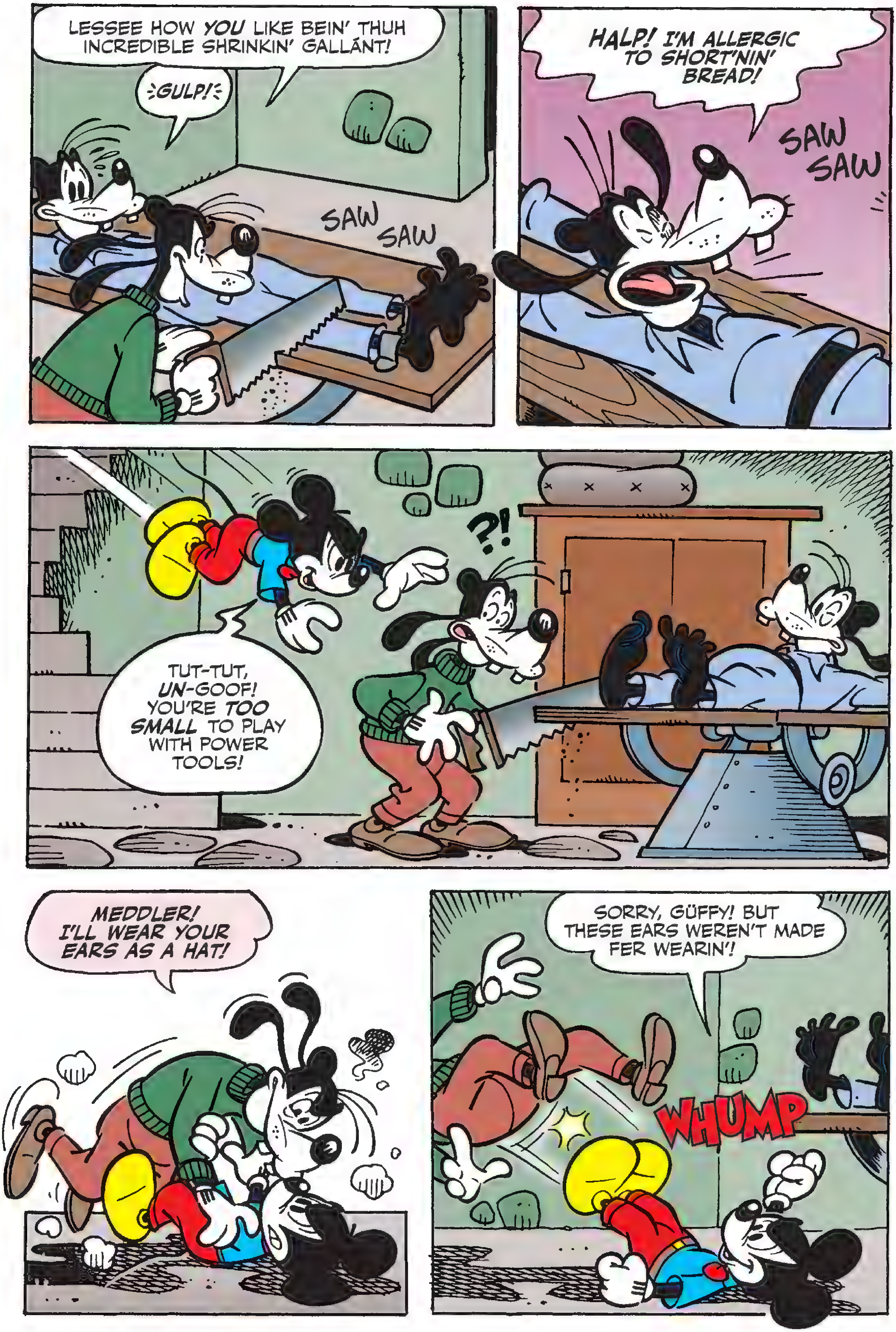

AND SO, AFTER A TRYING DAY, NIGHT FALLS ON CASA GALLÁNT...
ZZZ
...AND ALL SLEEP PEACEFULLY!
R
ZZZ
ZZZ
WITH ONE TINY, UNSTABLE EXCEPTION...
ZZZ
SKREE
WUZZAT? WHO'S THERE...
HELP! MIC— GACK!
THUD

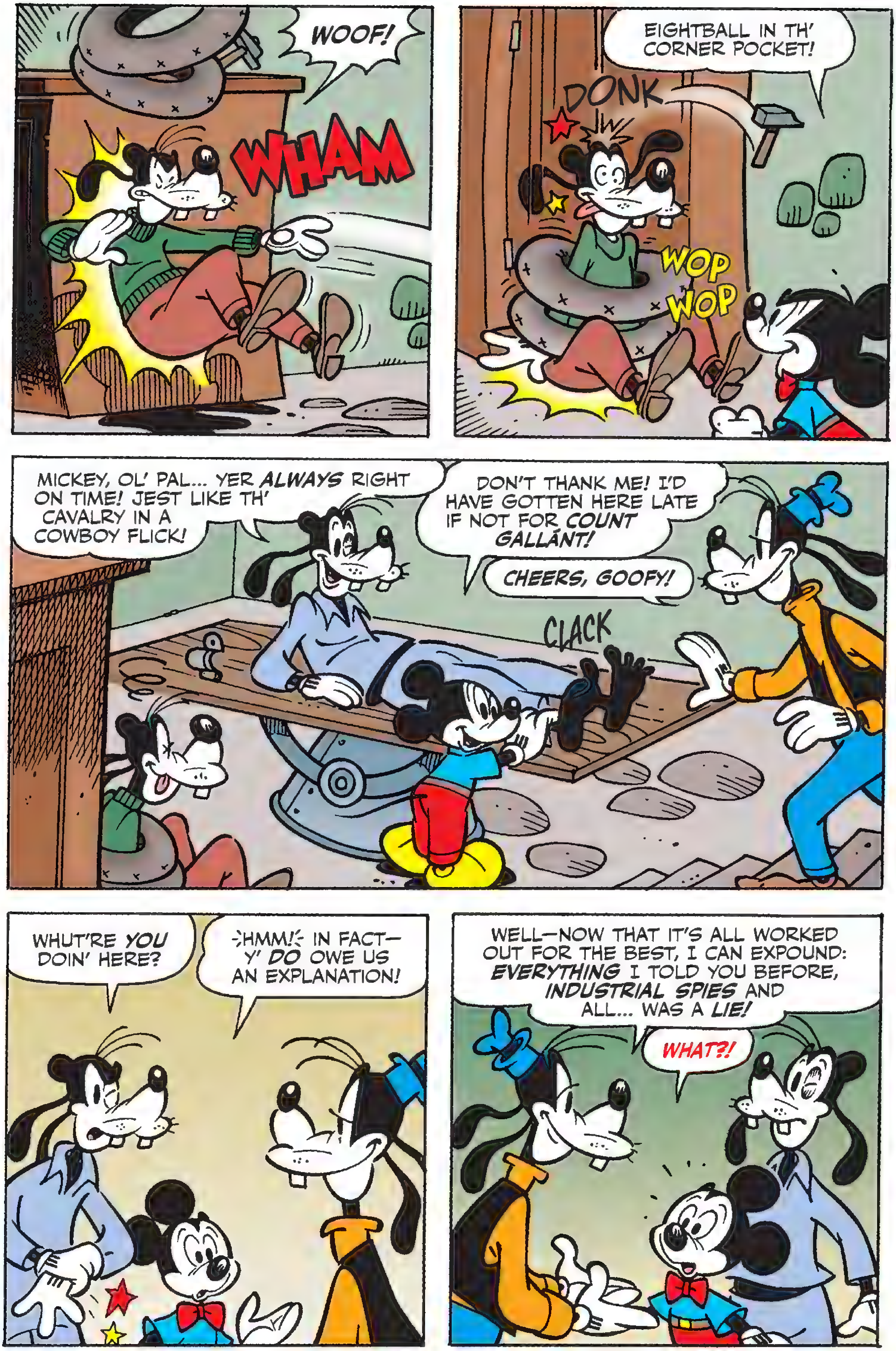

GOOFY! WHAT H—
OMIGOSH! LOCKED!
CLICK!
SLAM!
POOR GOOFY! Y'KNOW... I'M STARTIN' TO THINK THIS TRIP AIN'T WORTH ALL TH' TROUBLE!
LESSEE... THERE'S GOTTA BE A BUTTON TO OPEN A SECRET PASSAGE OR SUMP'N! ALL GIANT MANSIONS HAVE 'EM!
TAP TAP TAP
SEVERAL MINUTES LATER!
NOTHIN'! I'VE LOOKED ALL OVER THIS WALL, AND AIN'T FOUND SO MUCH AS A PIECE O' LINT!
HM... CAN I HELP?
YOU?!

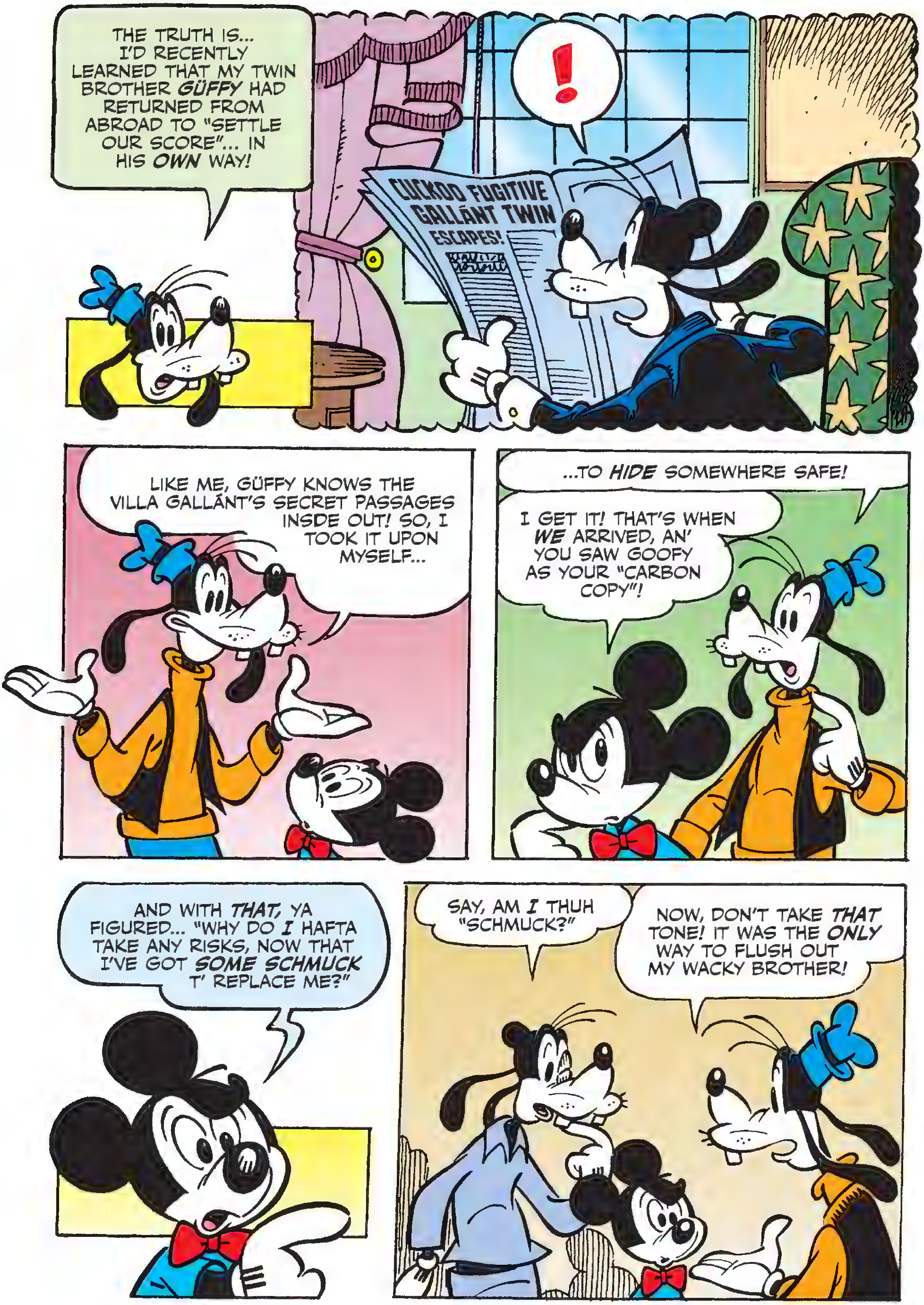

SEVERAL MORE MINUTES LATER!
WHA... WHA'S HAP'NIN'?
DIDN'T EXPECT ME SO SOON... DIDJA, BROTHER?
BROTHER? HANG ON—
AW, C'MON! ANOTHER DOUBLE?!
HYACK! YUH ACT LIKE YER SURPRISED! SURELY YUH REMEMBER YER DEAR TWIN BROTHER...

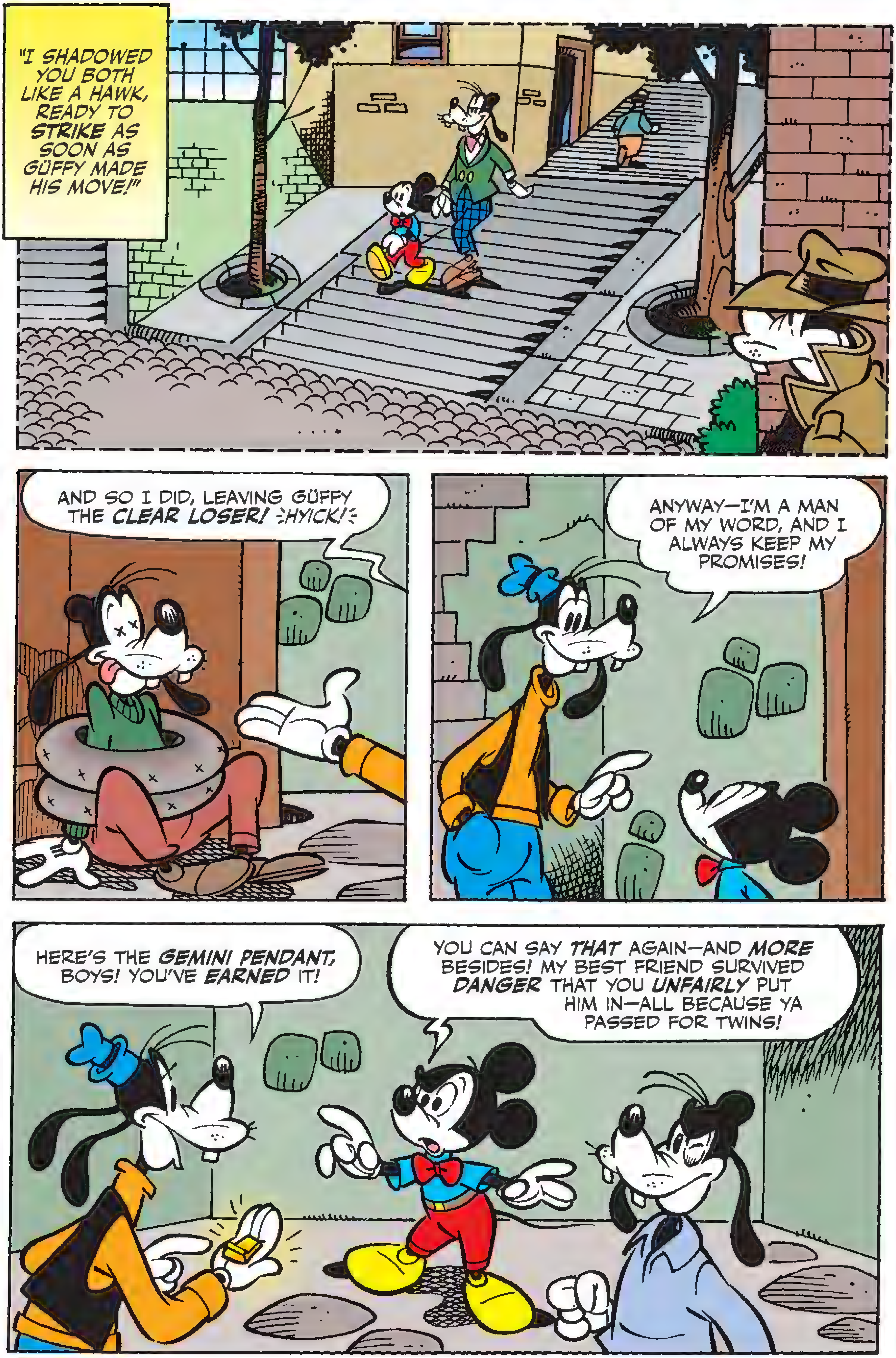

...GÜFFY GALLÁNT! IDENTICAL IN EVERY WAY, EXCEPT FER ONE THING...
REMEMBER WHEN WE WUZ KIDS?
"YUH ALWAYS KONKED ME ON TH' HEAD WITH A SPOON FER A JOKE..."
AN' THANKS TA THOSE KONKS, I GREW UP SHORT AS A WEINER DOG! ⁑WOOF!⁑
THIS. IS. THUH. ABSOLUTE. WORST.
YOU WERE TALL ENUFF TA REACH THUH COOKIE SHELF AN' BECOME A BELOVED BAKIN' TYCOON! WHILE I, GÜFFY, WAS A FAILURE IGNORED BY ALL! ⁑HYACK-ACK-ACK!⁑

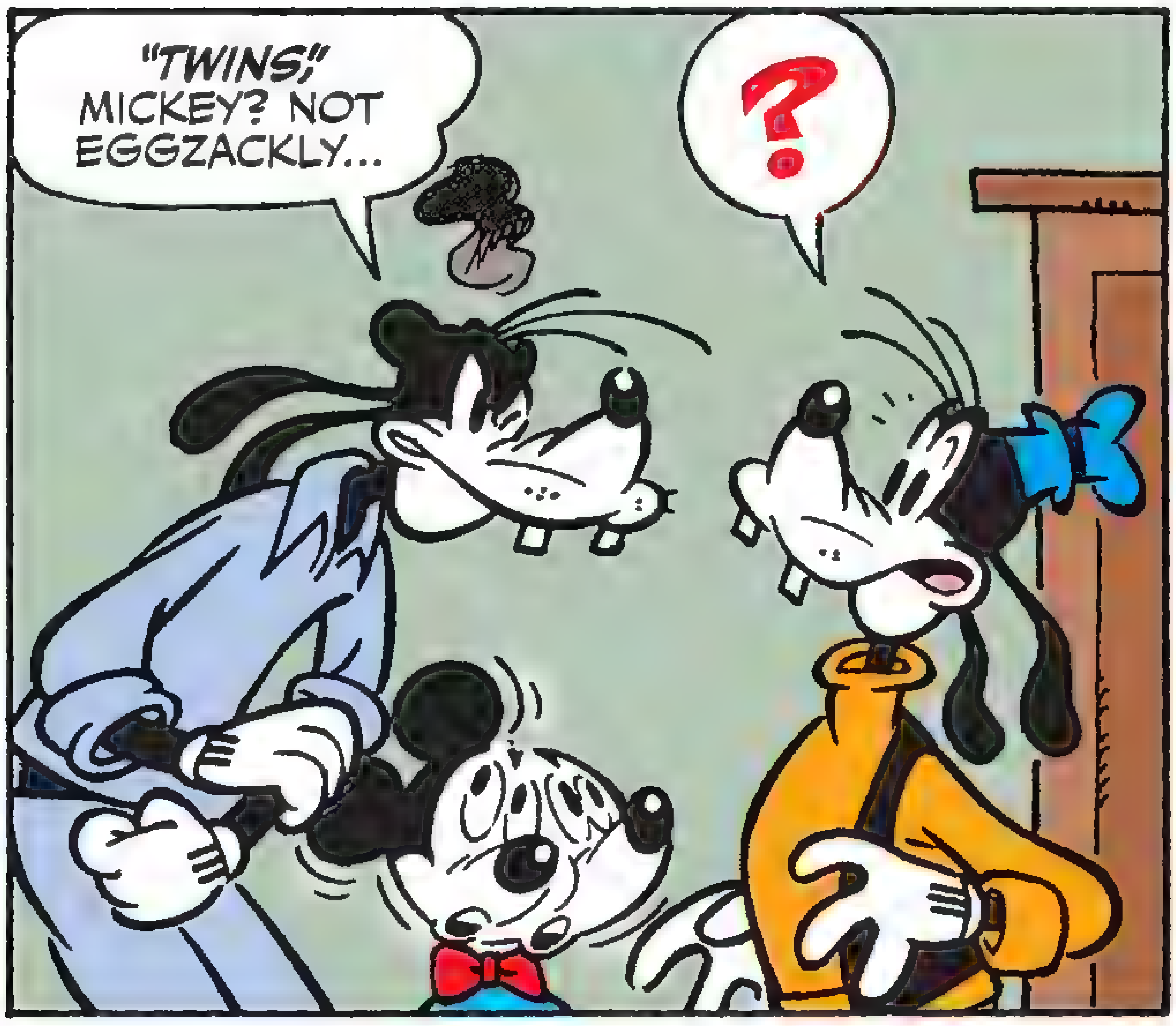

NOW I GET REVENGE! IT'S GÜFFY'S TIME TO SHINE! ⁖HYACK!⁖
HANG ON! BEIN' SHORT AIN'T BAD—MICKEY LIKES IT! AN' I AIN'T THUH COUNT! I JEST LOOKS LIKE HIM!
YOU THINK I'M GONNA FALL FER THAT? I'M MAD, BUT I AIN'T DUMB!
...
NEXT YER GONNA SAY I'M ONLY A FAILURE 'CAUSE O' MY NASTY TEMPER!
WELL—YUH CAN'T CHANGE MY MIND, BRUTHER...
...
...AN' I'VE FINALLY FOUND A WAY TUH BRING YUH DOWN TO MY SIZE! ⁖HYACK!⁖

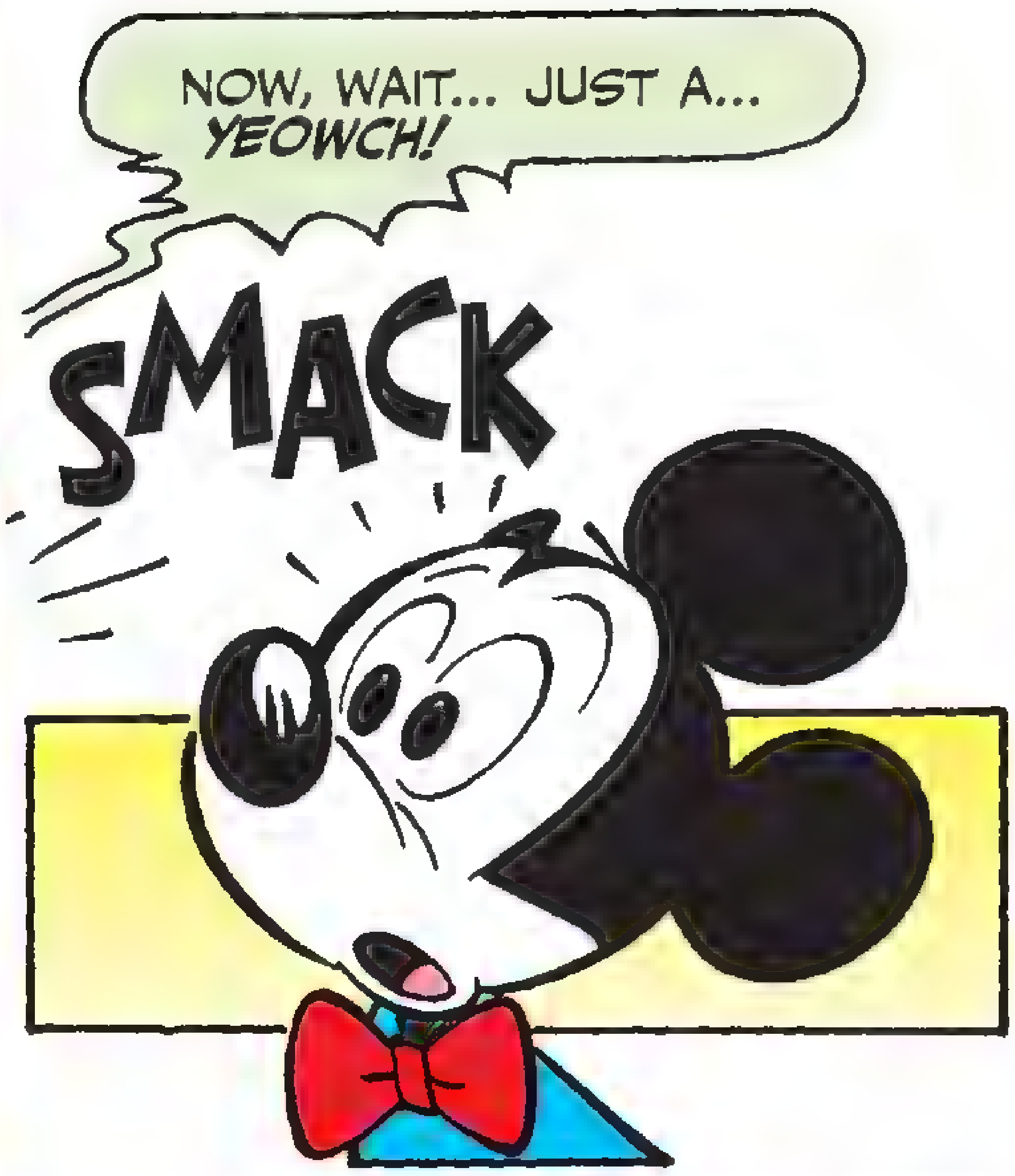

LESSEE HOW YOU LIKE BEIN' THUH INCREDIBLE SHRINKIN' GALLANT!
GULP!
SAW SAW
HALP! I'M ALLERGIC TO SHORT'NIN' BREAD!
SAW SAW
?!
TUT-TUT, UN-GOOF! YOU'RE TOO SMALL TO PLAY WITH POWER TOOLS!
MEDDLER! I'LL WEAR YOUR EARS AS A HAT!
SORRY, GÜFFY! BUT THESE EARS WEREN'T MADE FER WEARIN'!
WHUMP

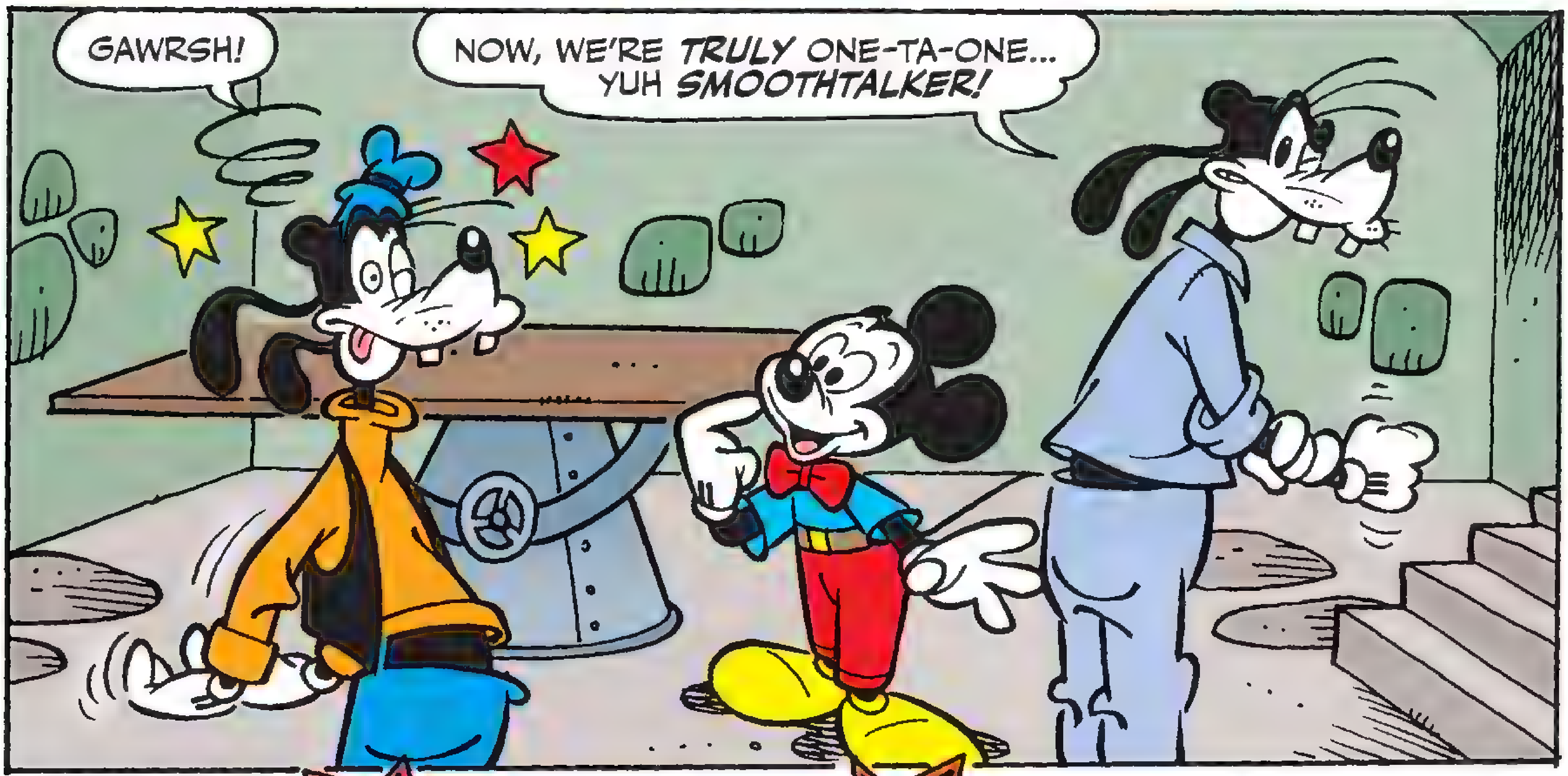

WOOF!
WHAM
EIGHTBALL IN TH' CORNER POCKET!
DONK
WOP
WOP
MICKEY, OL' PAL... YER *ALWAYS* RIGHT ON TIME! JEST LIKE TH' CAVALRY IN A COWBOY FLICK!
DON'T THANK ME! I'D HAVE GOTTEN HERE LATE IF NOT FOR *COUNT GALLANT!*
CHEERS, GOOFY!
CLACK
WHUT'RE *YOU* DOIN' HERE?
HMM! IN FACT— Y' *DO* OWE US AN EXPLANATION!
WELL—NOW THAT IT'S ALL WORKED OUT FOR THE BEST, I CAN EXPOUND: *EVERYTHING* I TOLD YOU BEFORE, *INDUSTRIAL SPIES* AND ALL... WAS A *LIE!*
WHAT?!

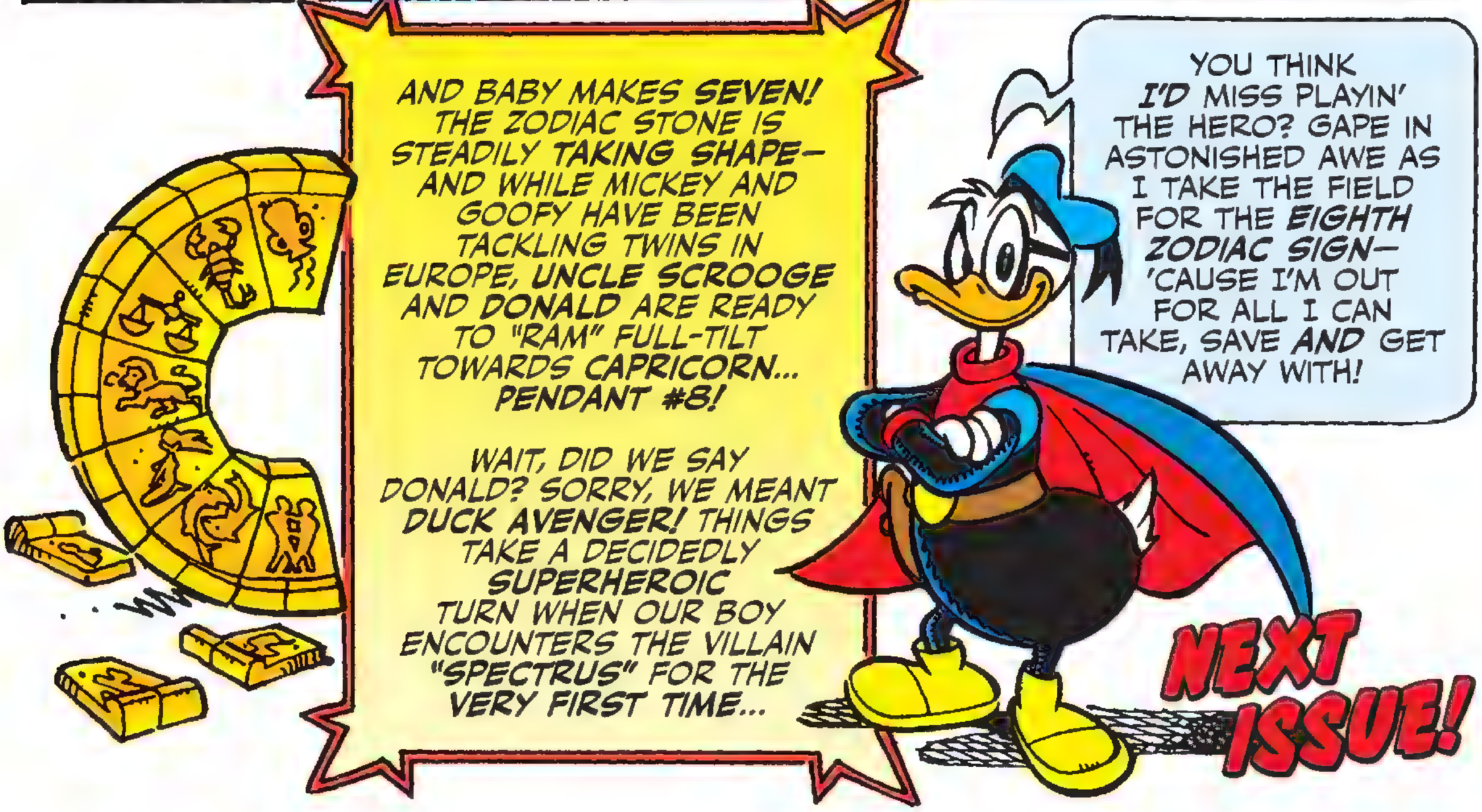

THE TRUTH IS... I'D RECENTLY LEARNED THAT MY TWIN BROTHER *GÜFFY* HAD RETURNED FROM ABROAD TO "SETTLE OUR SCORE"... IN HIS *OWN* WAY!
!
CUCKOO FUGITIVE GALLÀNT TWIN ESCAPES!
LIKE ME, GÜFFY KNOWS THE VILLA GALLÀNT'S SECRET PASSAGES INSDE OUT! SO, I TOOK IT UPON MYSELF...
...TO *HIDE* SOMEWHERE SAFE!
I GET IT! THAT'S WHEN *WE* ARRIVED, AN' YOU SAW GOOFY AS YOUR "CARBON COPY"!
AND WITH *THAT,* YA FIGURED... "WHY DO *I* HAFTA TAKE ANY RISKS, NOW THAT I'VE GOT *SOME SCHMUCK* T' REPLACE ME?"
SAY, AM *I* THUH "SCHMUCK?"
NOW, DON'T TAKE *THAT* TONE! IT WAS THE *ONLY* WAY TO FLUSH OUT MY WACKY BROTHER!


"I SHADOWED YOU BOTH LIKE A HAWK, READY TO STRIKE AS SOON AS GÜFFY MADE HIS MOVE!"
AND SO I DID, LEAVING GÜFFY THE CLEAR LOSER! ⦂HYICK!⦂
ANYWAY—I'M A MAN OF MY WORD, AND I ALWAYS KEEP MY PROMISES!
HERE'S THE GEMINI PENDANT, BOYS! YOU'VE EARNED IT!
YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN—AND MORE BESIDES! MY BEST FRIEND SURVIVED DANGER THAT YOU UNFAIRLY PUT HIM IN—ALL BECAUSE YA PASSED FOR TWINS!


"TWINS," MICKEY? NOT EGGZACKLY...
?

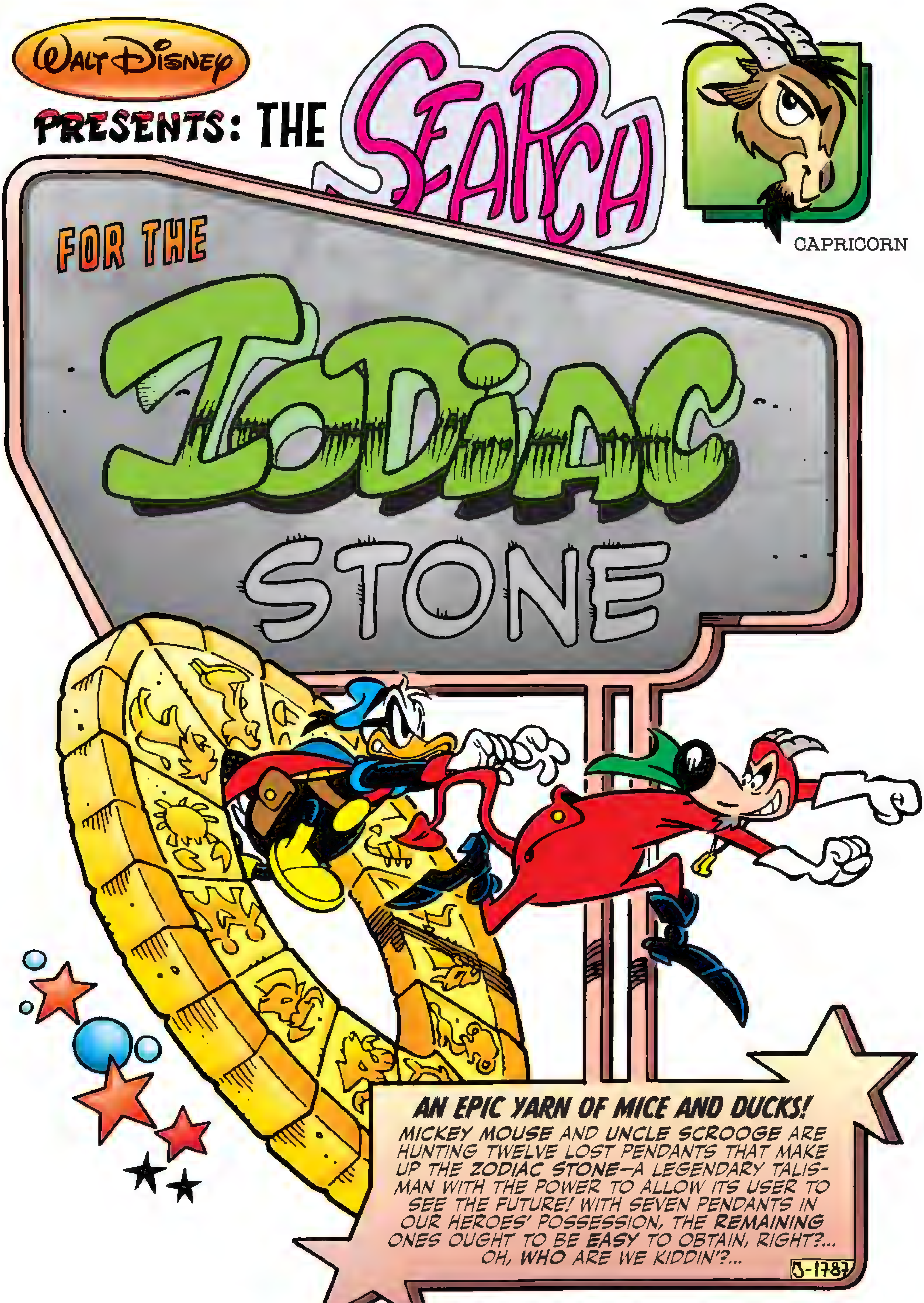

NOW, WAIT... JUST A... *YEOWCH!*
SMACK


GAWRSH!
NOW, WE'RE *TRULY* ONE-TA-ONE... YUH *SMOOTHTALKER!*


AND BABY MAKES **SEVEN!** THE ZODIAC STONE IS STEADILY **TAKING SHAPE**— AND WHILE MICKEY AND GOOFY HAVE BEEN TACKLING TWINS IN EUROPE, **UNCLE SCROOGE** AND **DONALD** ARE READY TO "RAM" FULL-TILT TOWARDS **CAPRICORN... PENDANT #8!**
WAIT, DID WE SAY DONALD? SORRY, WE MEANT **DUCK AVENGER!** THINGS TAKE A DECIDEDLY **SUPERHEROIC** TURN WHEN OUR BOY ENCOUNTERS THE VILLAIN **"SPECTRUS"** FOR THE **VERY FIRST TIME...**
YOU THINK *I'D* MISS PLAYIN' THE HERO? GAPE IN ASTONISHED AWE AS I TAKE THE FIELD FOR THE ***EIGHTH ZODIAC SIGN***— 'CAUSE I'M OUT FOR ALL I CAN TAKE, SAVE *AND* GET AWAY WITH!
NEXT ISSUE!

WALT DISNEY PRESENTS: THE

SEARCH FOR THE ZODIAC STONE



AN EPIC YARN OF MICE AND DUCKS!

MICKEY MOUSE AND UNCLE SCROOGE ARE HUNTING TWELVE LOST PENDANTS THAT MAKE UP THE ZODIAC STONE—A LEGENDARY TALISMAN WITH THE POWER TO ALLOW ITS USER TO SEE THE FUTURE! WITH SEVEN PENDANTS IN OUR HEROES' POSSESSION, THE REMAINING ONES OUGHT TO BE EASY TO OBTAIN, RIGHT?... OH, WHO ARE WE KIDDIN'?...

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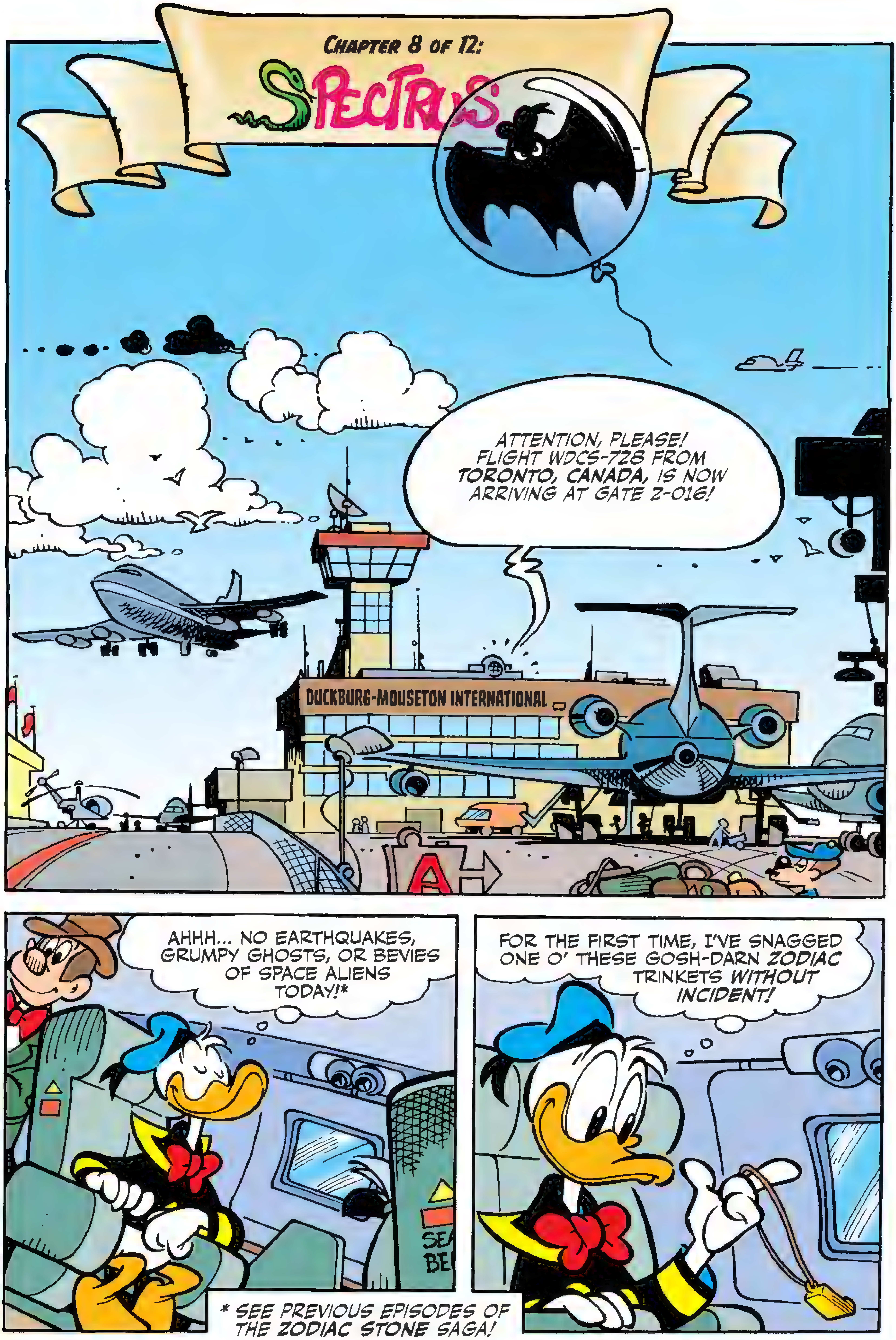
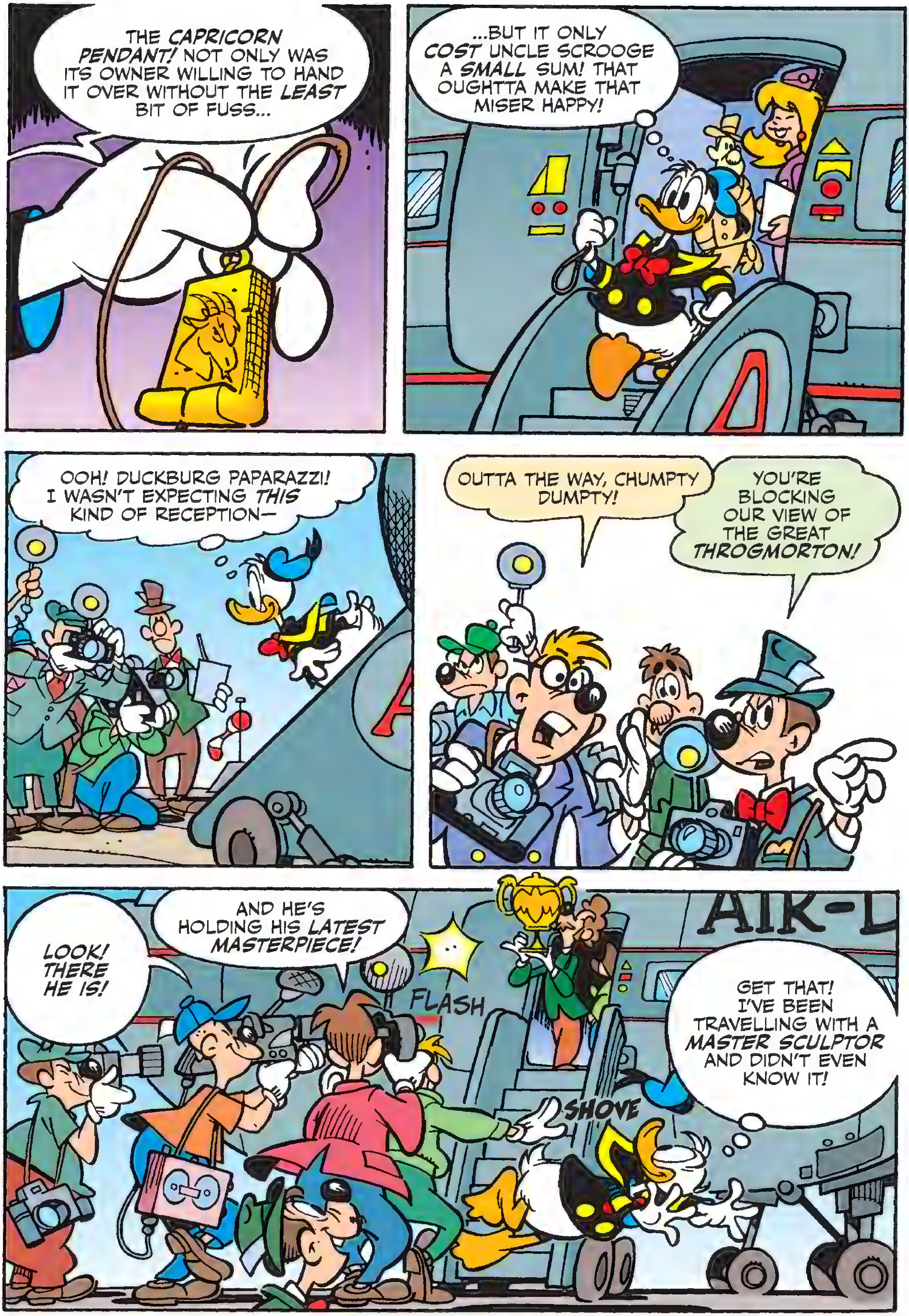
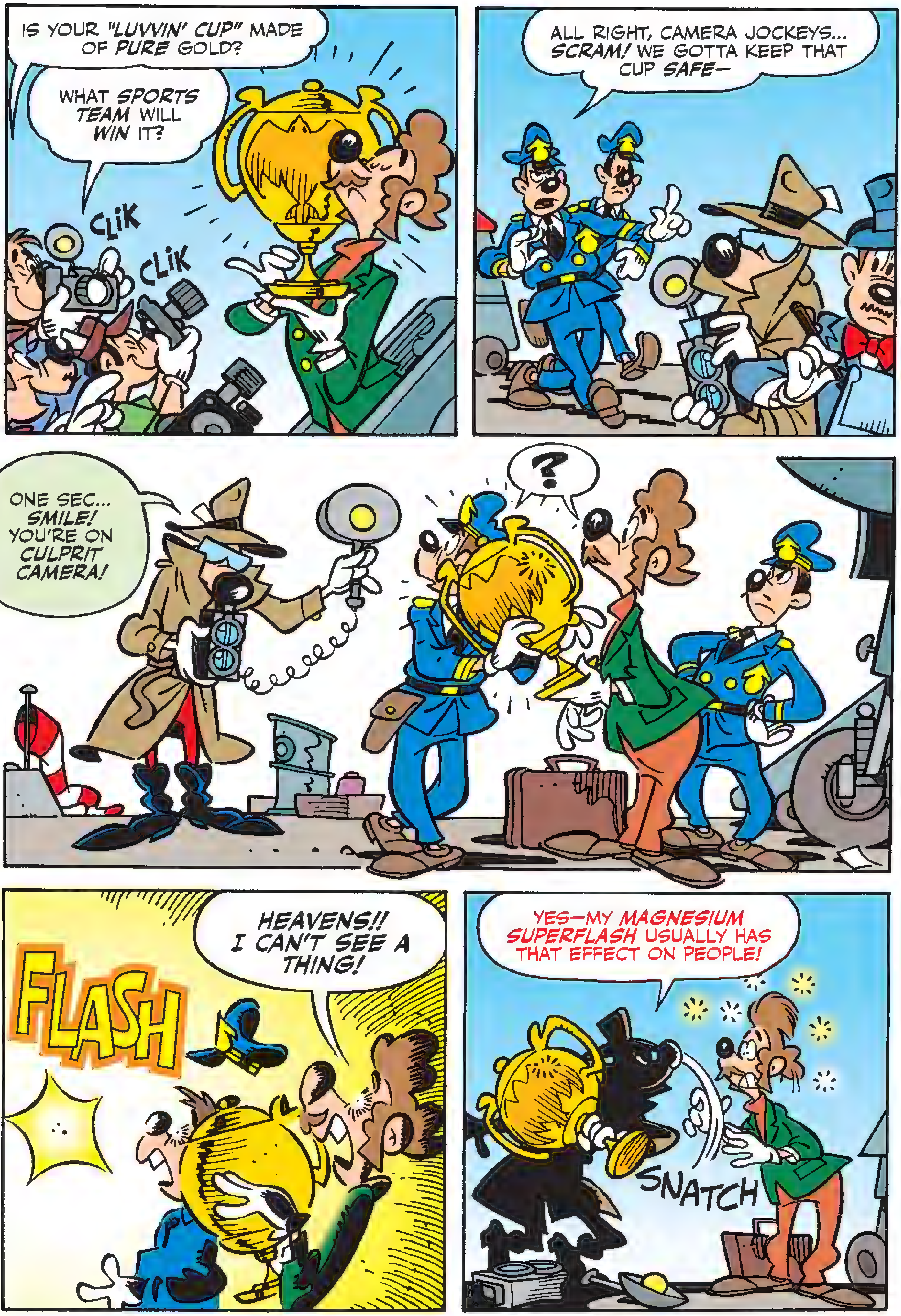
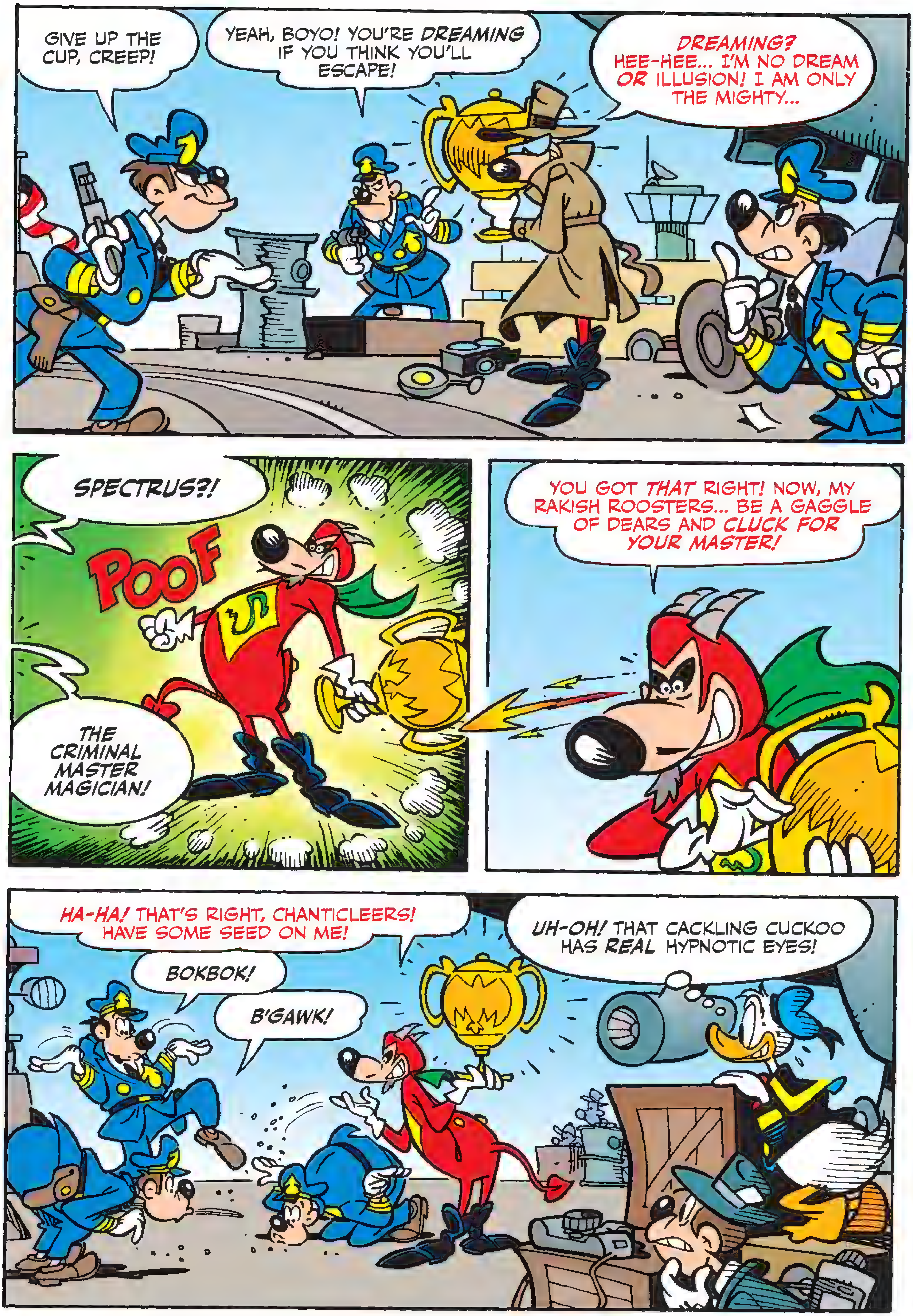
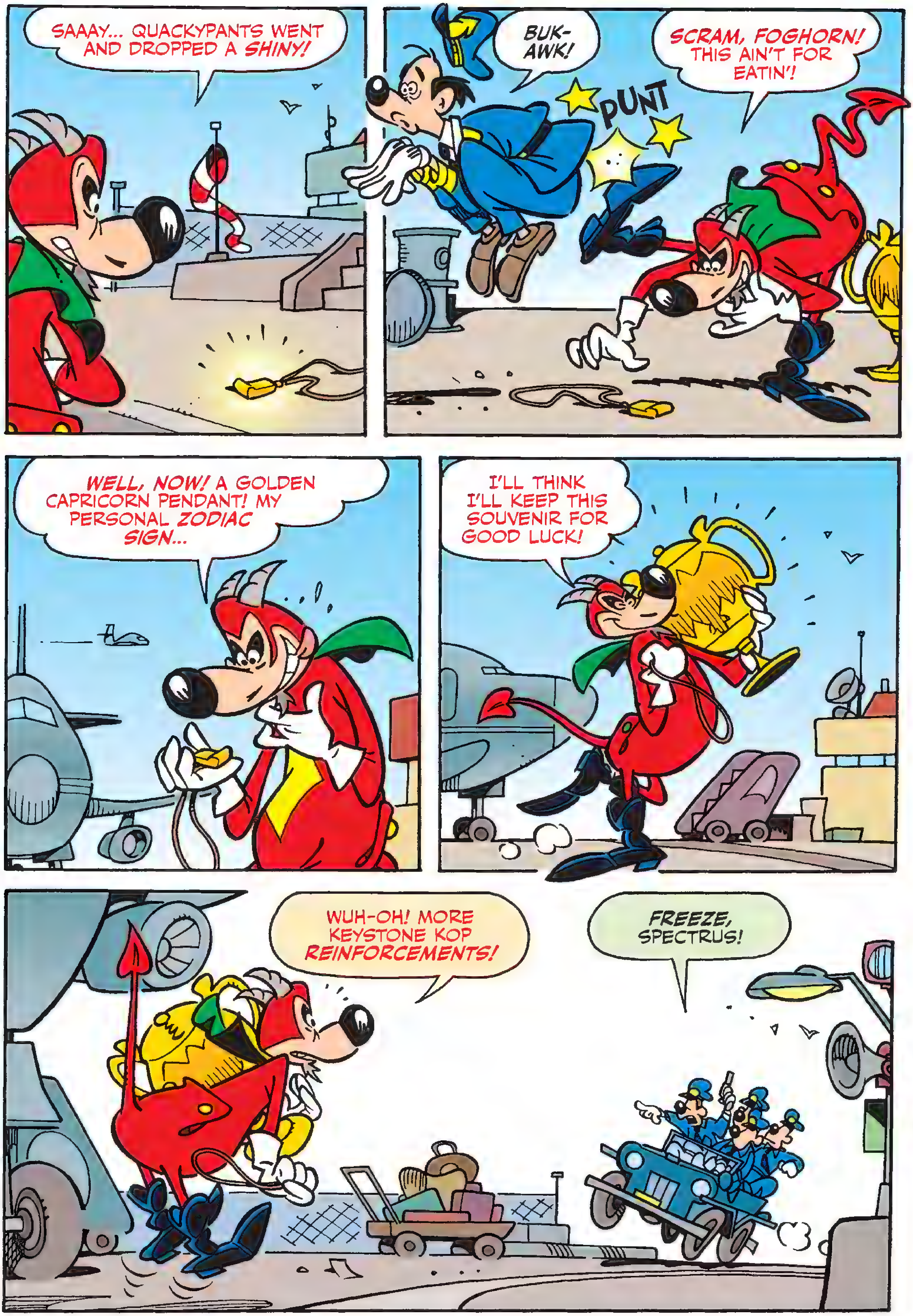

CHAPTER 8 OF 12:
SPECTRUS
ATTENTION, PLEASE! FLIGHT WDCS-728 FROM *TORONTO, CANADA,* IS NOW ARRIVING AT GATE 2-016!
DUCKBURG-MOUSETON INTERNATIONAL
A
AHHH... NO EARTHQUAKES, GRUMPY GHOSTS, OR BEVIES OF SPACE ALIENS TODAY!*
FOR THE FIRST TIME, I'VE SNAGGED ONE O' THESE GOSH-DARN *ZODIAC* TRINKETS *WITHOUT INCIDENT!*
* SEE PREVIOUS EPISODES OF THE *ZODIAC STONE* SAGA!

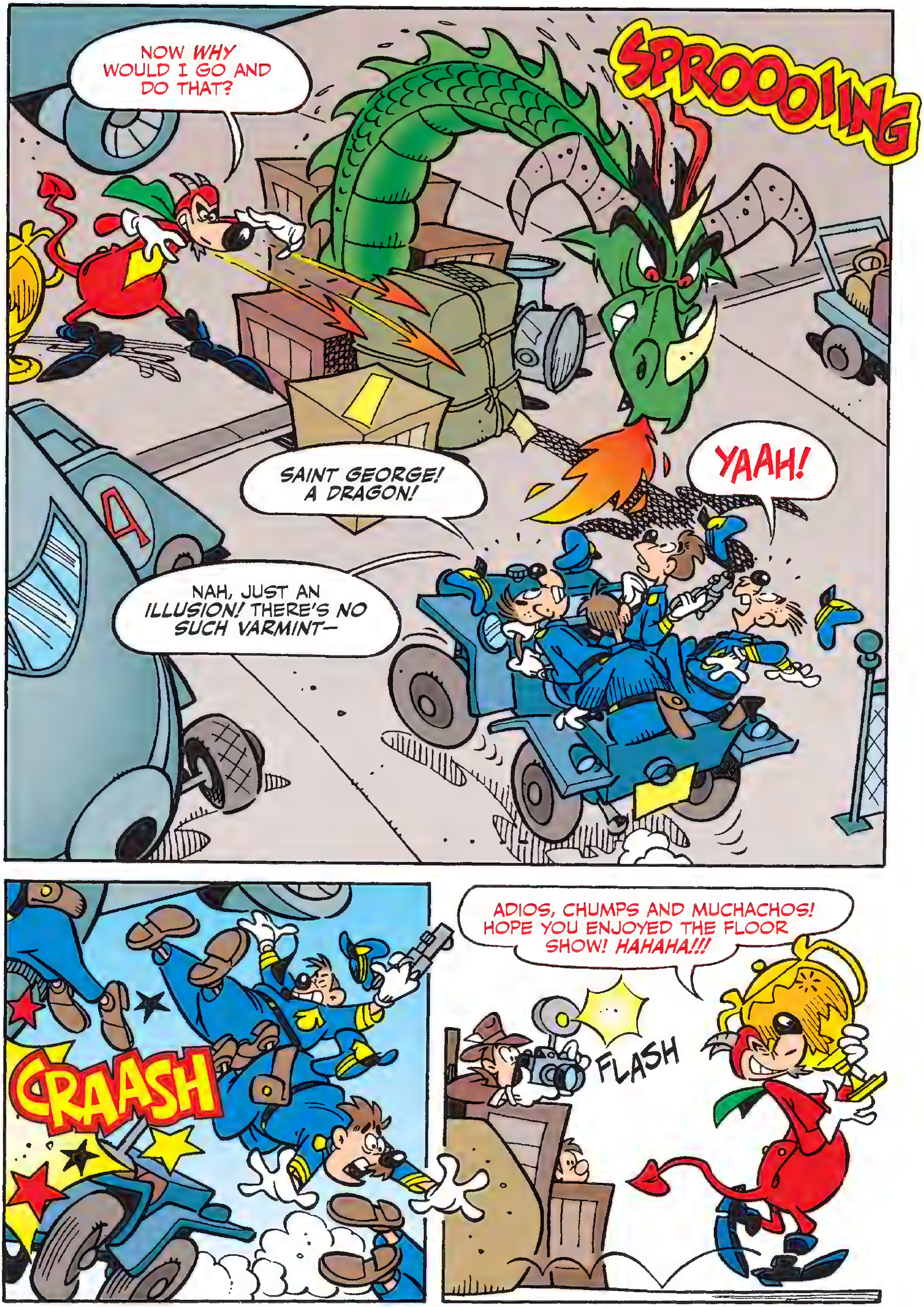

THE *CAPRICORN PENDANT!* NOT ONLY WAS ITS OWNER WILLING TO HAND IT OVER WITHOUT THE *LEAST* BIT OF FUSS...
...BUT IT ONLY *COST* UNCLE SCROOGE A *SMALL* SUM! THAT OUGHTTA MAKE THAT MISER HAPPY!
OOH! DUCKBURG PAPARAZZI! I WASN'T EXPECTING *THIS* KIND OF RECEPTION—
OUTTA THE WAY, CHUMPTY DUMPTY!
YOU'RE BLOCKING OUR VIEW OF THE GREAT *THROGMORTON!*
LOOK! THERE HE IS!
AND HE'S HOLDING HIS *LATEST MASTERPIECE!*
FLASH
AIR-D
SHOVE
GET THAT! I'VE BEEN TRAVELLING WITH A *MASTER SCULPTOR* AND DIDN'T EVEN KNOW IT!

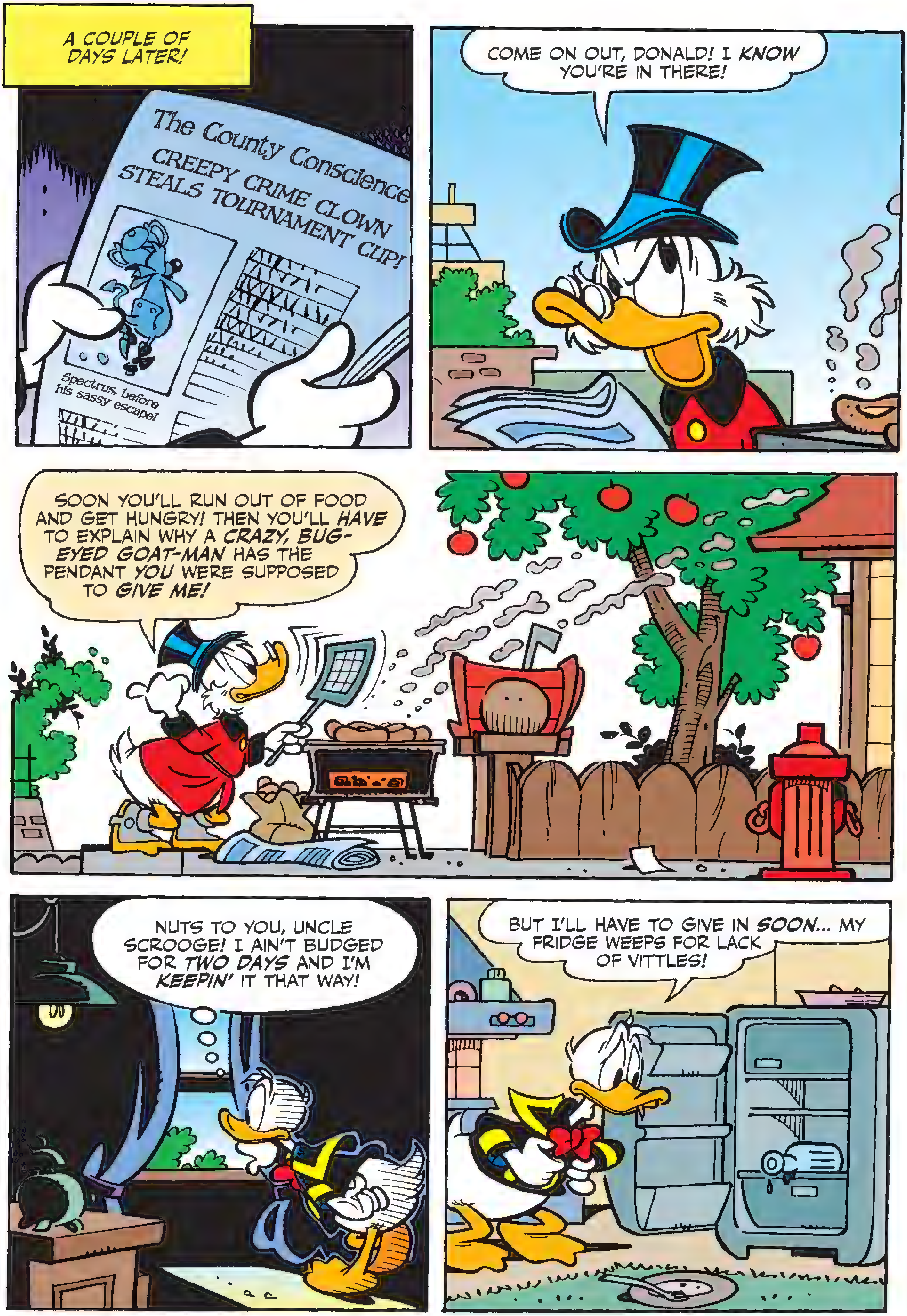

IS YOUR "LUVVIN' CUP" MADE OF PURE GOLD?
WHAT SPORTS TEAM WILL WIN IT?
CLIK
CLIK
ALL RIGHT, CAMERA JOCKEYS... SCRAM! WE GOTTA KEEP THAT CUP SAFE—
ONE SEC... SMILE! YOU'RE ON CULPRIT CAMERA!
?
FLASH
HEAVENS!! I CAN'T SEE A THING!
YES—MY MAGNESIUM SUPERFLASH USUALLY HAS THAT EFFECT ON PEOPLE!
SNATCH

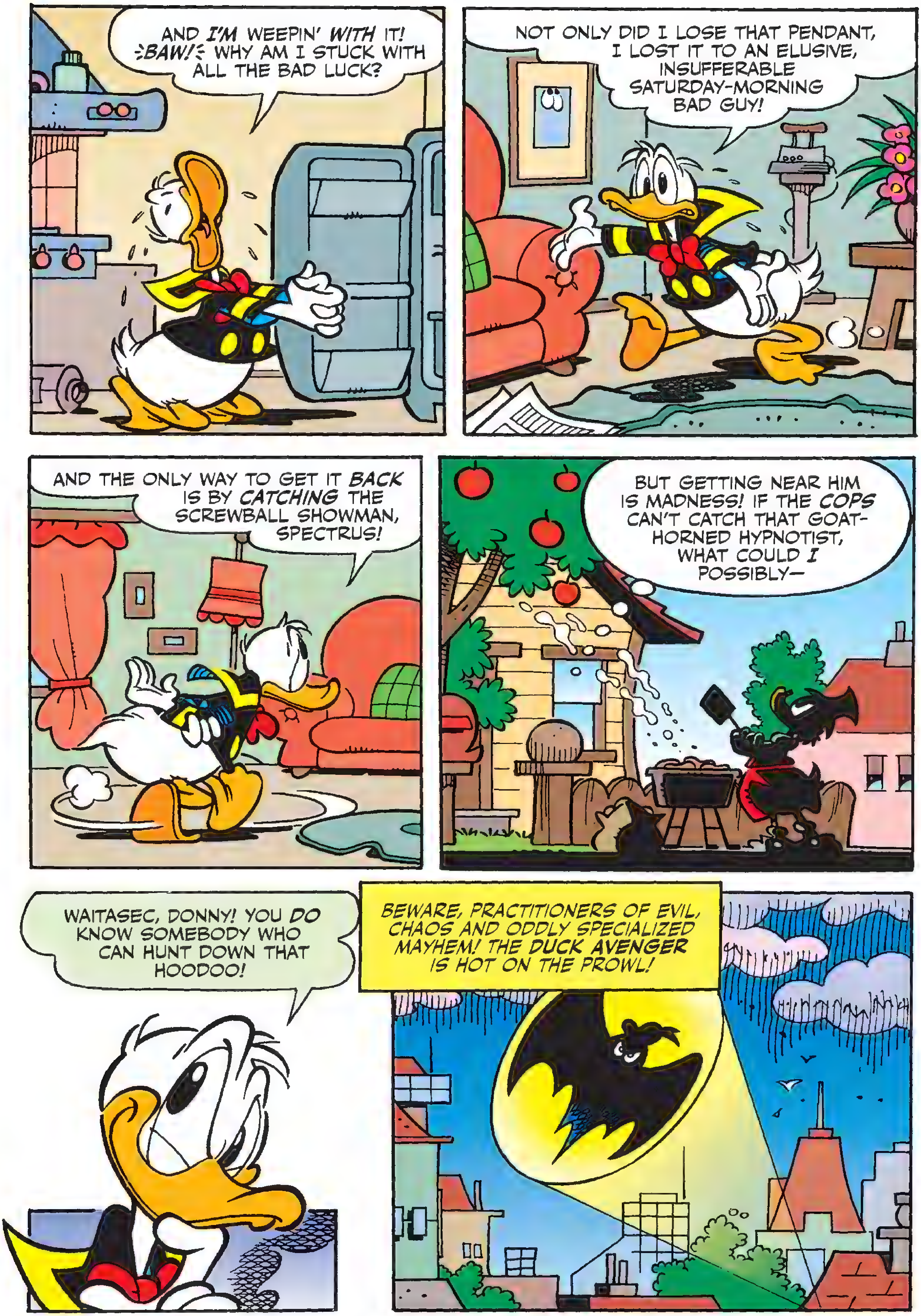

GIVE UP THE CUP, CREEP!
YEAH, BOYO! YOU'RE *DREAMING* IF YOU THINK YOU'LL ESCAPE!
DREAMING? HEE-HEE... I'M NO DREAM *OR* ILLUSION! I AM ONLY THE MIGHTY...
SPECTRUS?!
POOF
THE CRIMINAL MASTER MAGICIAN!
YOU GOT *THAT* RIGHT! NOW, MY RAKISH ROOSTERS... BE A GAGGLE OF DEARS AND *CLUCK FOR YOUR MASTER!*
HA-HA! THAT'S RIGHT, CHANTICLEERS! HAVE SOME SEED ON ME!
BOKBOK!
B'GAWK!
UH-OH! THAT CACKLING CUCKOO HAS *REAL* HYPNOTIC EYES!

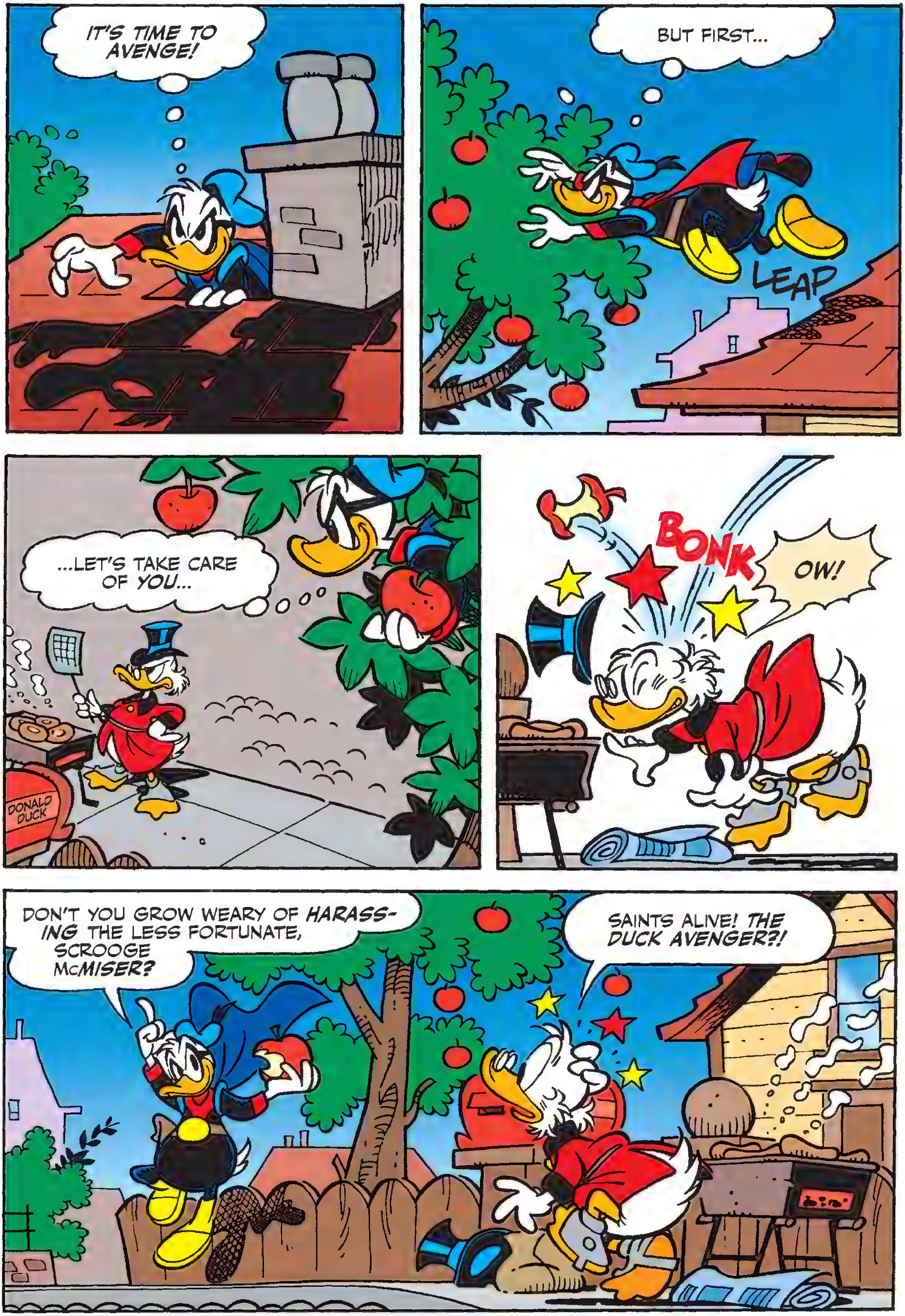
BUT... MAYBE I CAN "HYPNOTIZE" HIM *MY* WAY!
A *SUPERVILLAIN!* IF I CATCH SPECTRUS, I'LL BE ON THE FRONT PAGE OF EVERY PAPER FROM HERE TO ST. CANA—
LOOK, MAC! *WHAT'S YOUR DAMAGE?*
OH! ER... H'LO...
IT'S DANGEROUS TO KEEP *SNAKES* IN HAND, DUCK!
YEEK!
EVEN *WORSE* WHEN THERE'S VENOMOUS *SCORPIONS* ABOUT!
WHAT A GIGA-MAROON! THAT'LL TEACH *HIM* TO MEDDLE IN AN HONEST SUPER-CRIMINAL'S BIZ!
ZOOOM

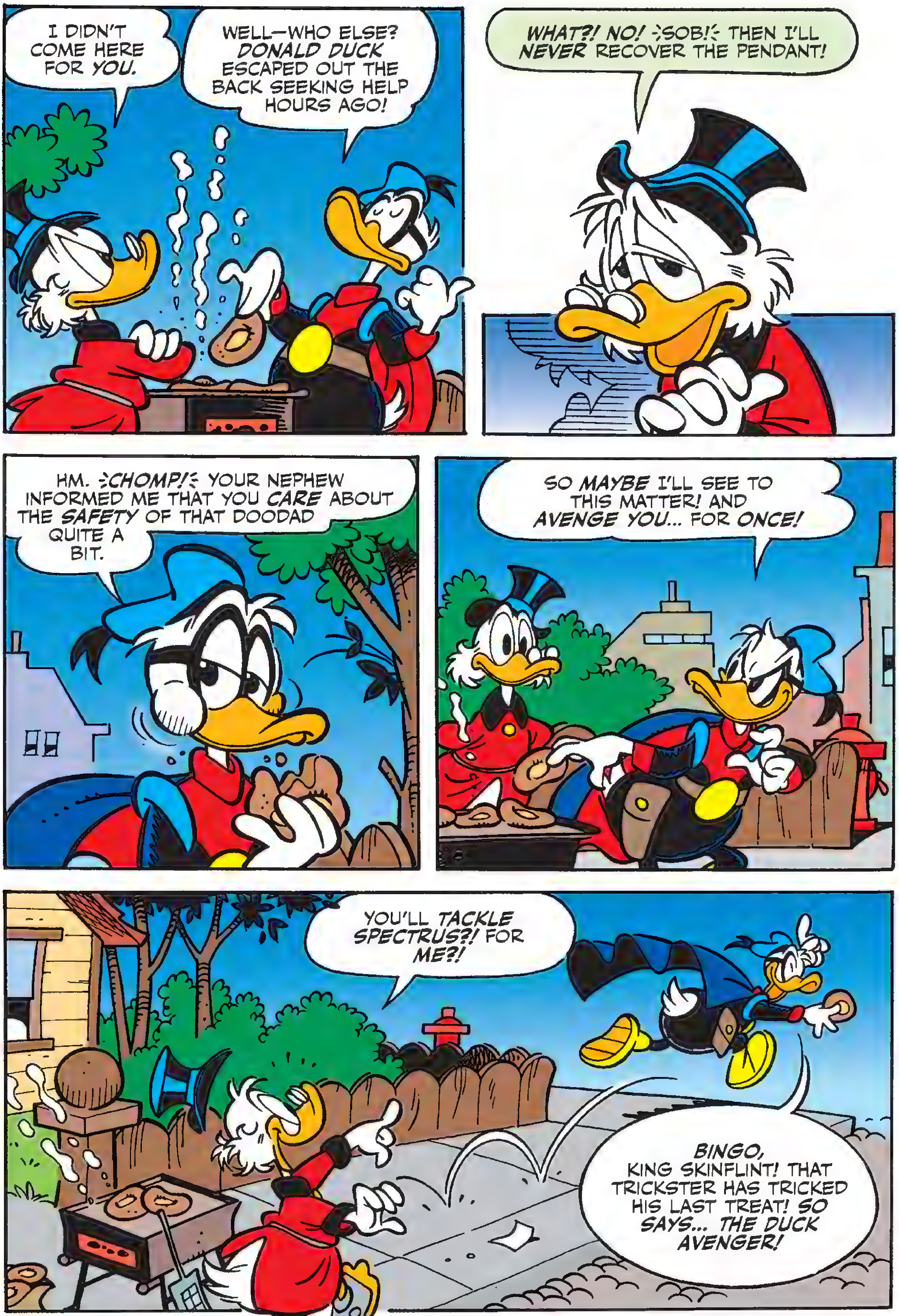

SAAAY... QUACKYPANTS WENT AND DROPPED A *SHINY!*
BUK-AWK!
PUNT
SCRAM, FOGHORN! THIS AIN'T FOR EATIN'!
WELL, NOW! A GOLDEN CAPRICORN PENDANT! MY PERSONAL *ZODIAC SIGN...*
I'LL THINK I'LL KEEP THIS SOUVENIR FOR GOOD LUCK!
WUH-OH! MORE KEYSTONE KOP *REINFORCEMENTS!*
FREEZE, SPECTRUS!

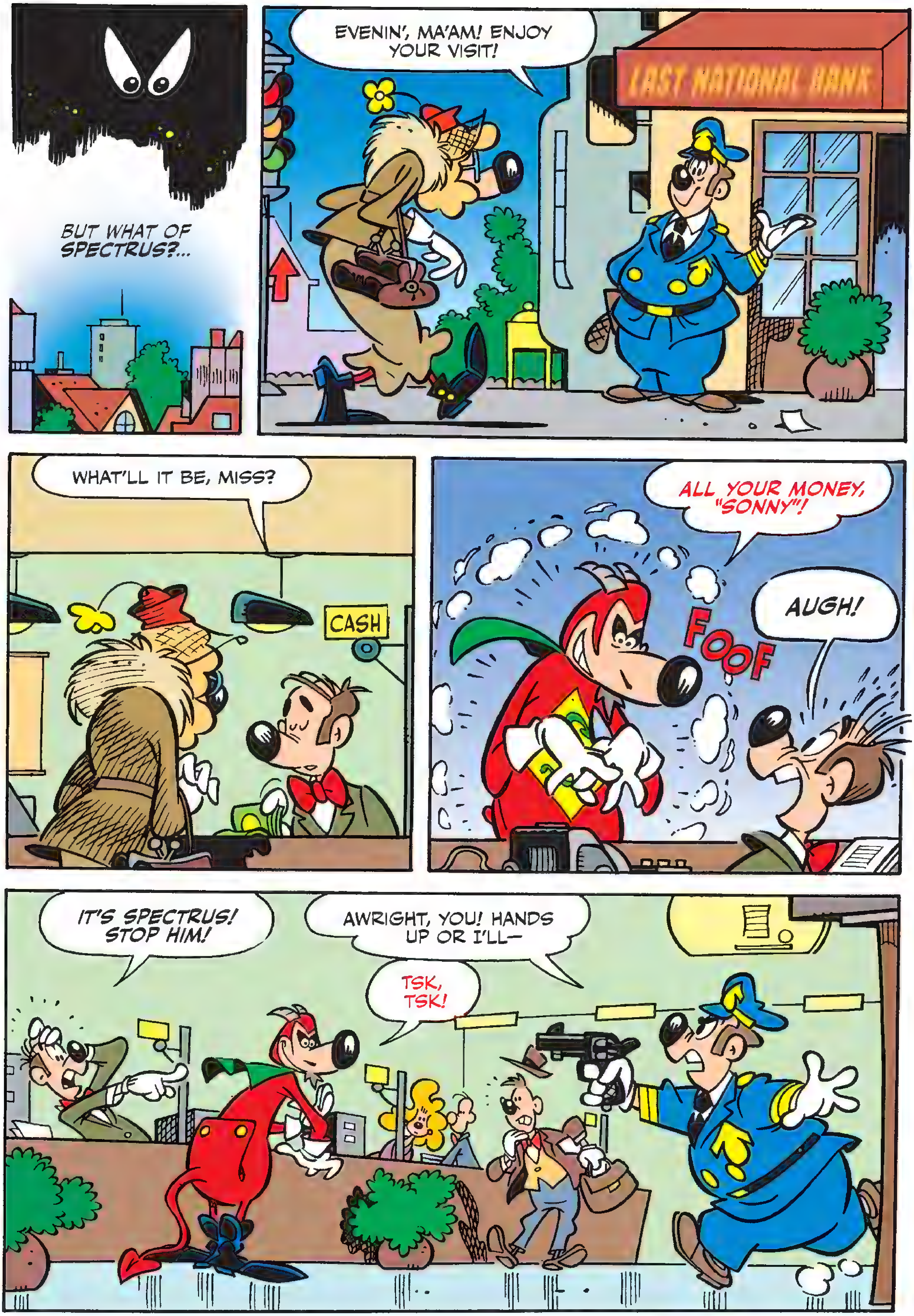

NOW WHY WOULD I GO AND DO THAT?
SPROOOOING
SAINT GEORGE! A DRAGON!
YAAH!
NAH, JUST AN ILLUSION! THERE'S NO SUCH VARMINT—
CRAASH
ADIOS, CHUMPS AND MUCHACHOS! HOPE YOU ENJOYED THE FLOOR SHOW! HAHAHA!!!
FLASH

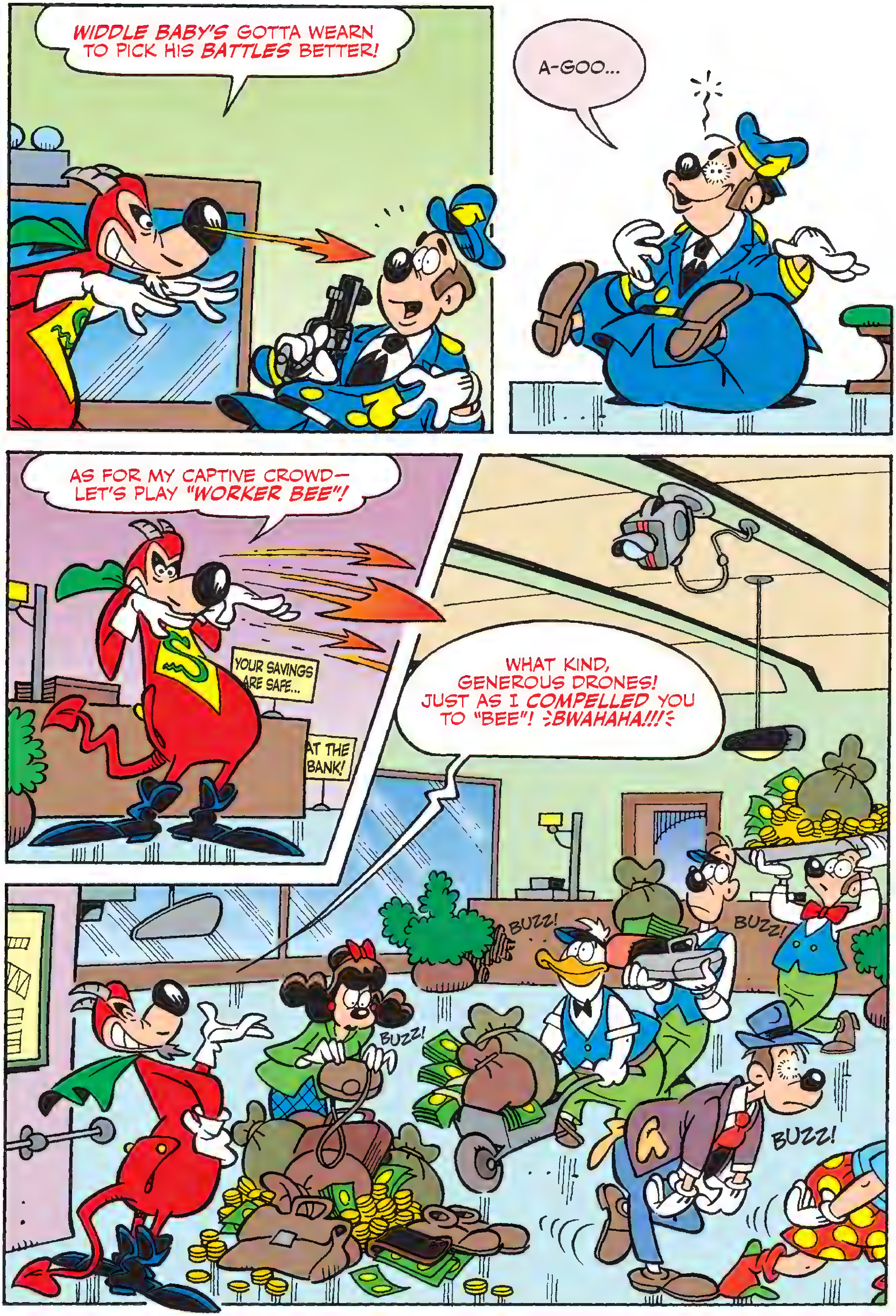

A COUPLE OF DAYS LATER!
The County Conscience
CREEPY CRIME CLOWN STEALS TOURNAMENT CUP!
Spectrus, before his sassy escape!
COME ON OUT, DONALD! I *KNOW* YOU'RE IN THERE!
SOON YOU'LL RUN OUT OF FOOD AND GET HUNGRY! THEN YOU'LL *HAVE* TO EXPLAIN WHY A *CRAZY, BUG-EYED GOAT-MAN* HAS THE PENDANT *YOU* WERE SUPPOSED TO *GIVE ME!*
NUTS TO YOU, UNCLE SCROOGE! I AIN'T BUDGED FOR *TWO DAYS* AND I'M *KEEPIN'* IT THAT WAY!
BUT I'LL HAVE TO GIVE IN *SOON*... MY FRIDGE WEEPS FOR LACK OF VITTLES!

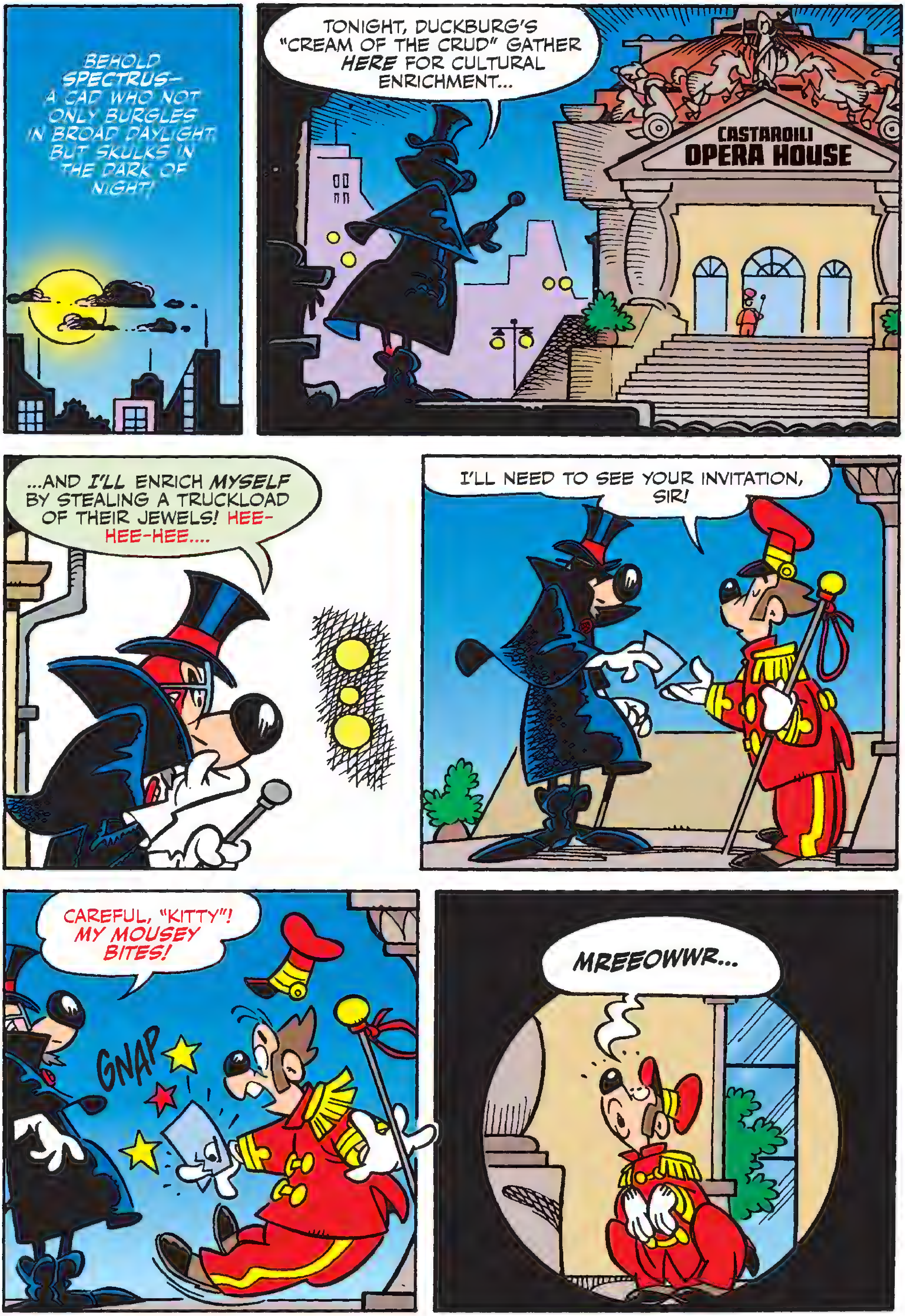

AND *I'M* WEEPIN' *WITH* IT! *:BAW!:* WHY AM I STUCK WITH ALL THE BAD LUCK?
NOT ONLY DID I LOSE THAT PENDANT, I LOST IT TO AN ELUSIVE, INSUFFERABLE SATURDAY-MORNING BAD GUY!
AND THE ONLY WAY TO GET IT *BACK* IS BY *CATCHING* THE SCREWBALL SHOWMAN, SPECTRUS!
BUT GETTING NEAR HIM IS MADNESS! IF THE *COPS* CAN'T CATCH THAT GOAT-HORNED HYPNOTIST, WHAT COULD *I* POSSIBLY—
WAITASEC, DONNY! YOU *DO* KNOW SOMEBODY WHO CAN HUNT DOWN THAT HOODOO!
BEWARE, PRACTITIONERS OF EVIL, CHAOS AND ODDLY SPECIALIZED MAYHEM! THE ***DUCK AVENGER*** *IS HOT ON THE PROWL!*

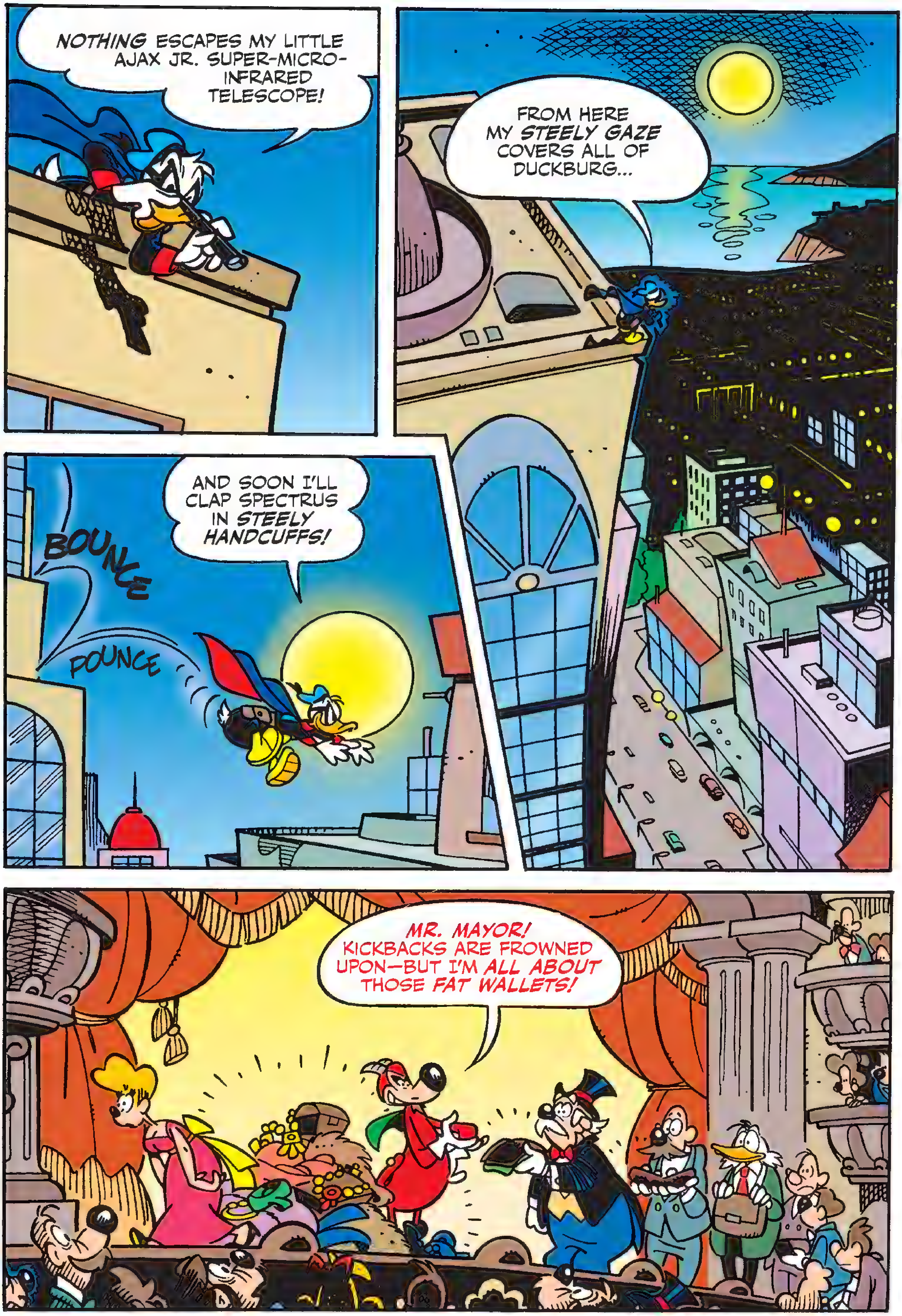

IT'S TIME TO AVENGE!
BUT FIRST...
LEAP
...LET'S TAKE CARE OF YOU...
DONALD DUCK
BONK
OW!
DON'T YOU GROW WEARY OF HARASSING THE LESS FORTUNATE, SCROOGE McMISER?
SAINTS ALIVE! THE DUCK AVENGER?!

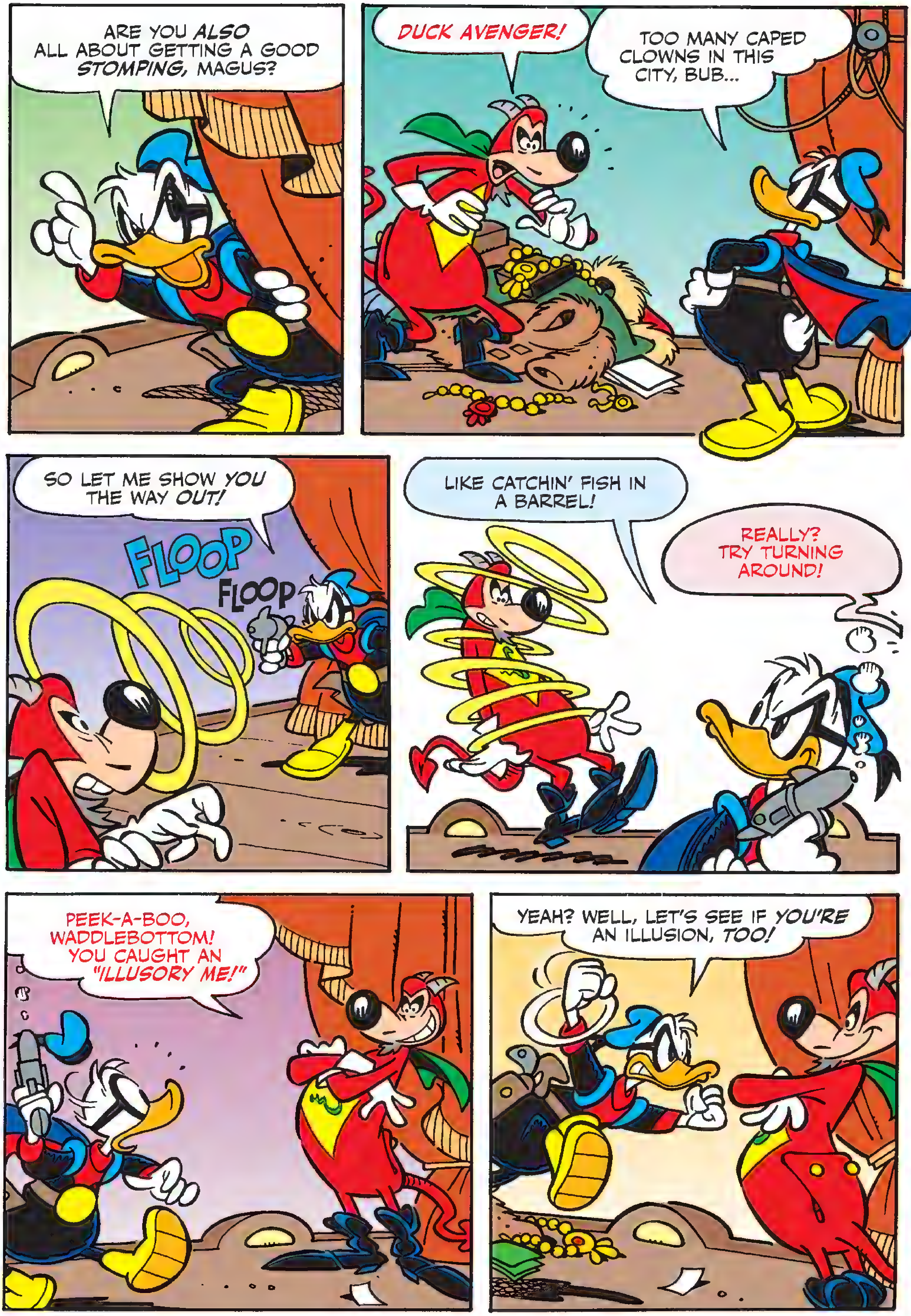

I DIDN'T COME HERE FOR *YOU.*
WELL—WHO ELSE? ***DONALD DUCK*** ESCAPED OUT THE BACK SEEKING HELP HOURS AGO!
WHAT?! NO! -SOB!- THEN I'LL *NEVER* RECOVER THE PENDANT!
HM. -*CHOMP!*- YOUR NEPHEW INFORMED ME THAT YOU *CARE* ABOUT THE *SAFETY* OF THAT DOODAD QUITE A BIT.
SO *MAYBE* I'LL SEE TO THIS MATTER! AND *AVENGE YOU...* FOR *ONCE!*
YOU'LL *TACKLE SPECTRUS?!* FOR *ME?!*
BINGO, KING SKINFLINT! THAT TRICKSTER HAS TRICKED HIS LAST TREAT! *SO SAYS... THE DUCK AVENGER!*

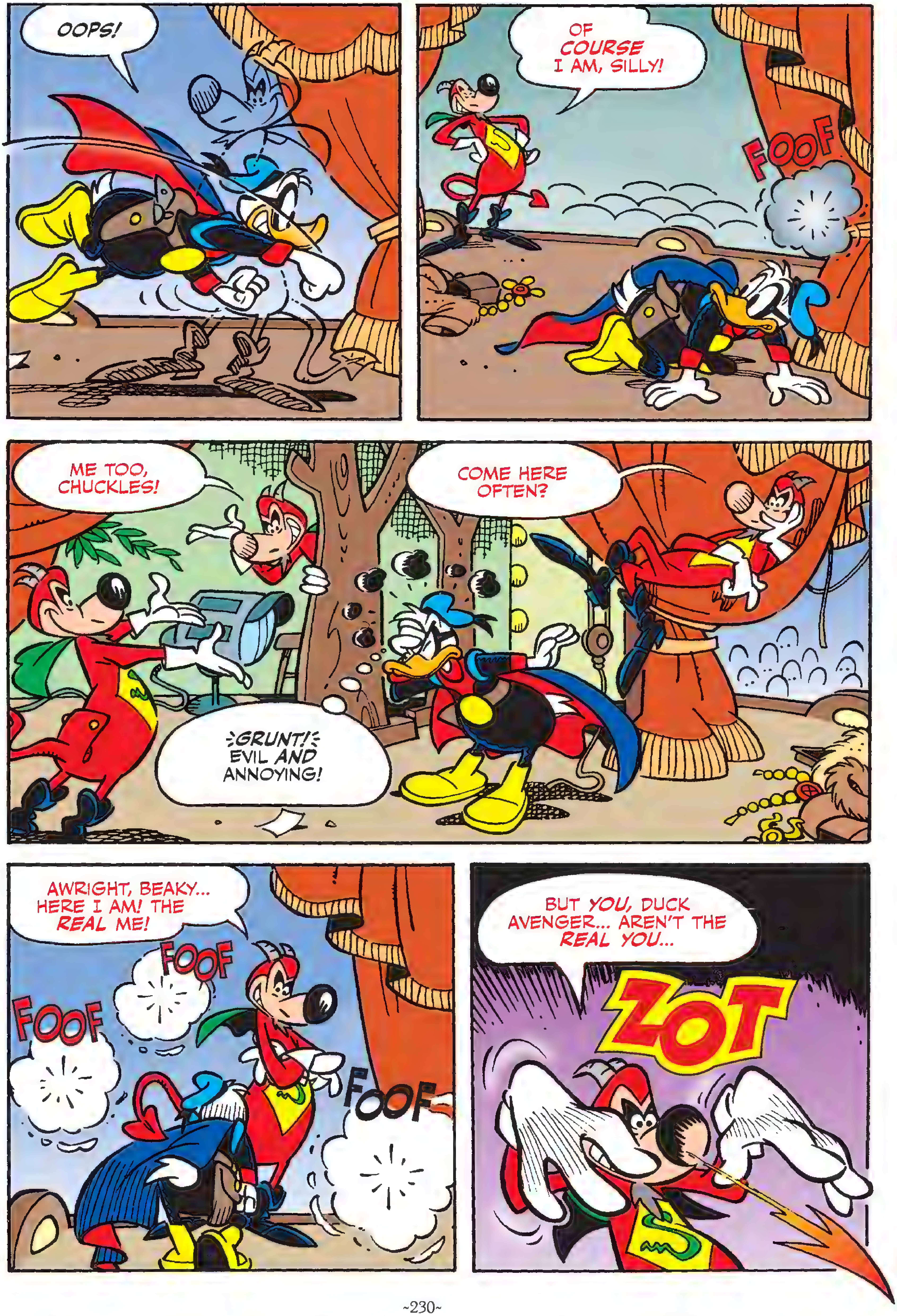

BUT WHAT OF SPECTRUS?...
EVENIN', MA'AM! ENJOY YOUR VISIT!
LAST NATIONAL BANK
WHAT'LL IT BE, MISS?
CASH
ALL YOUR MONEY, "SONNY"!
FOOF
AUGH!
IT'S SPECTRUS! STOP HIM!
AWRIGHT, YOU! HANDS UP OR I'LL—
TSK, TSK!

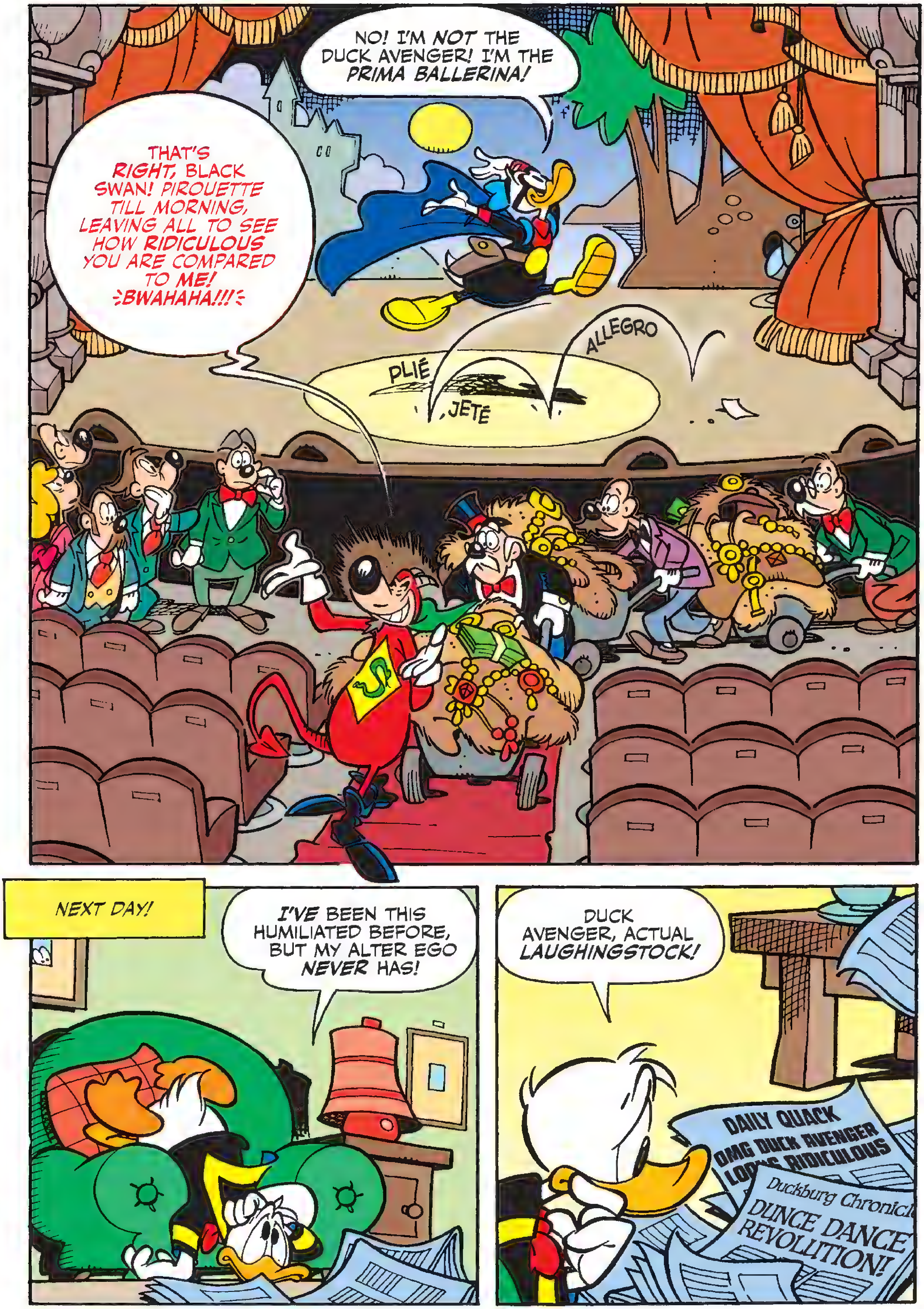

WIDDLE BABY'S GOTTA WEARN TO PICK HIS BATTLES BETTER!
A-GOO...
AS FOR MY CAPTIVE CROWD— LET'S PLAY "WORKER BEE"!
YOUR SAVINGS ARE SAFE...
AT THE BANK!
WHAT KIND, GENEROUS DRONES! JUST AS I COMPELLED YOU TO "BEE"! ⪧BWAHAHA!!!⪦
BUZZ!
BUZZ!
BUZZ!
BUZZ!

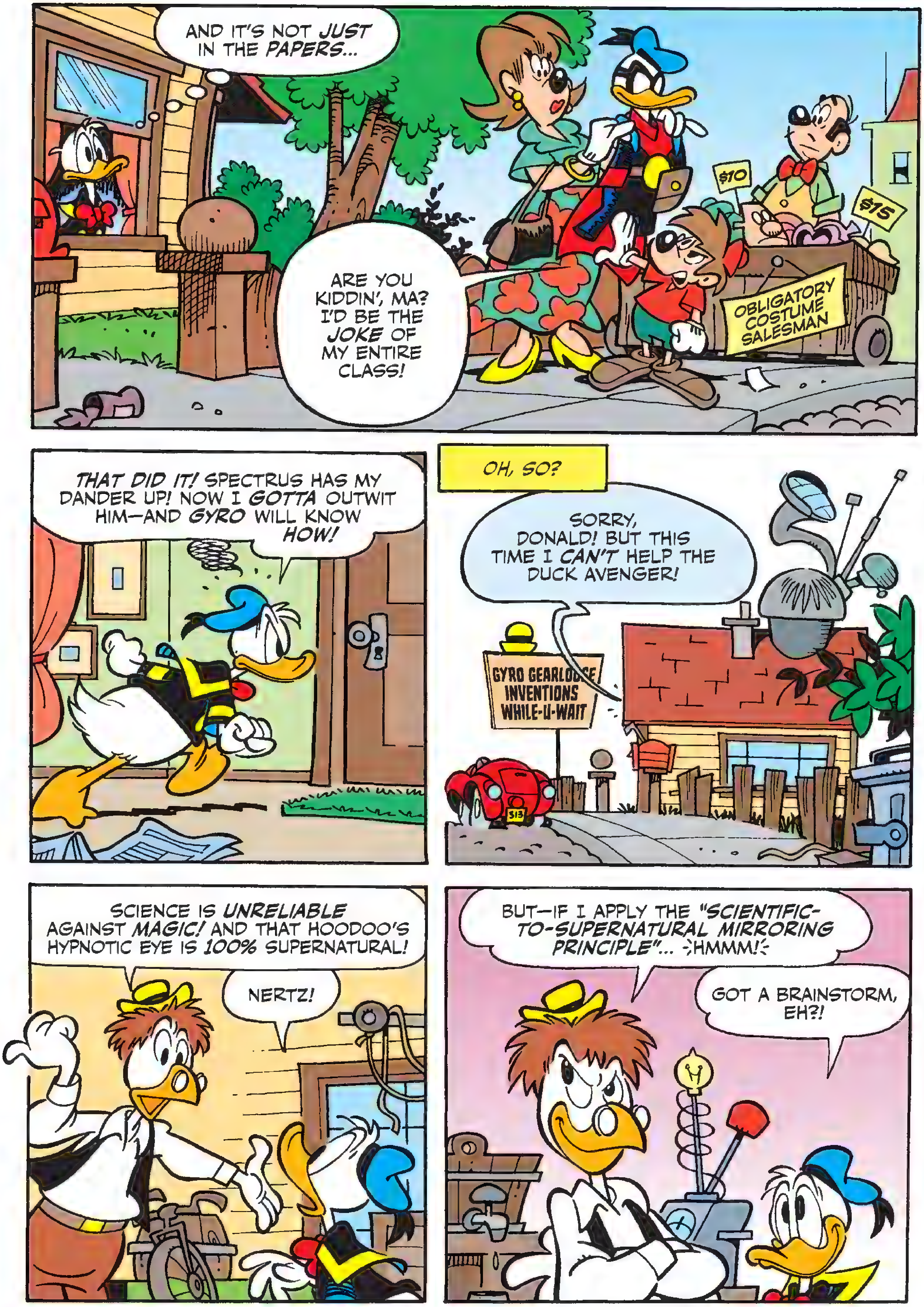

BEHOLD SPECTRUS— A CAD WHO NOT ONLY BURGLES IN BROAD DAYLIGHT BUT SKULKS IN THE DARK OF NIGHT!
TONIGHT, DUCKBURG'S "CREAM OF THE CRUD" GATHER *HERE* FOR CULTURAL ENRICHMENT...
CASTAROILI OPERA HOUSE
...AND *I'LL* ENRICH *MYSELF* BY STEALING A TRUCKLOAD OF THEIR JEWELS! HEE-HEE-HEE....
I'LL NEED TO SEE YOUR INVITATION, SIR!
CAREFUL, "KITTY"! *MY MOUSEY BITES!*
GNAP
MREEOWWR...

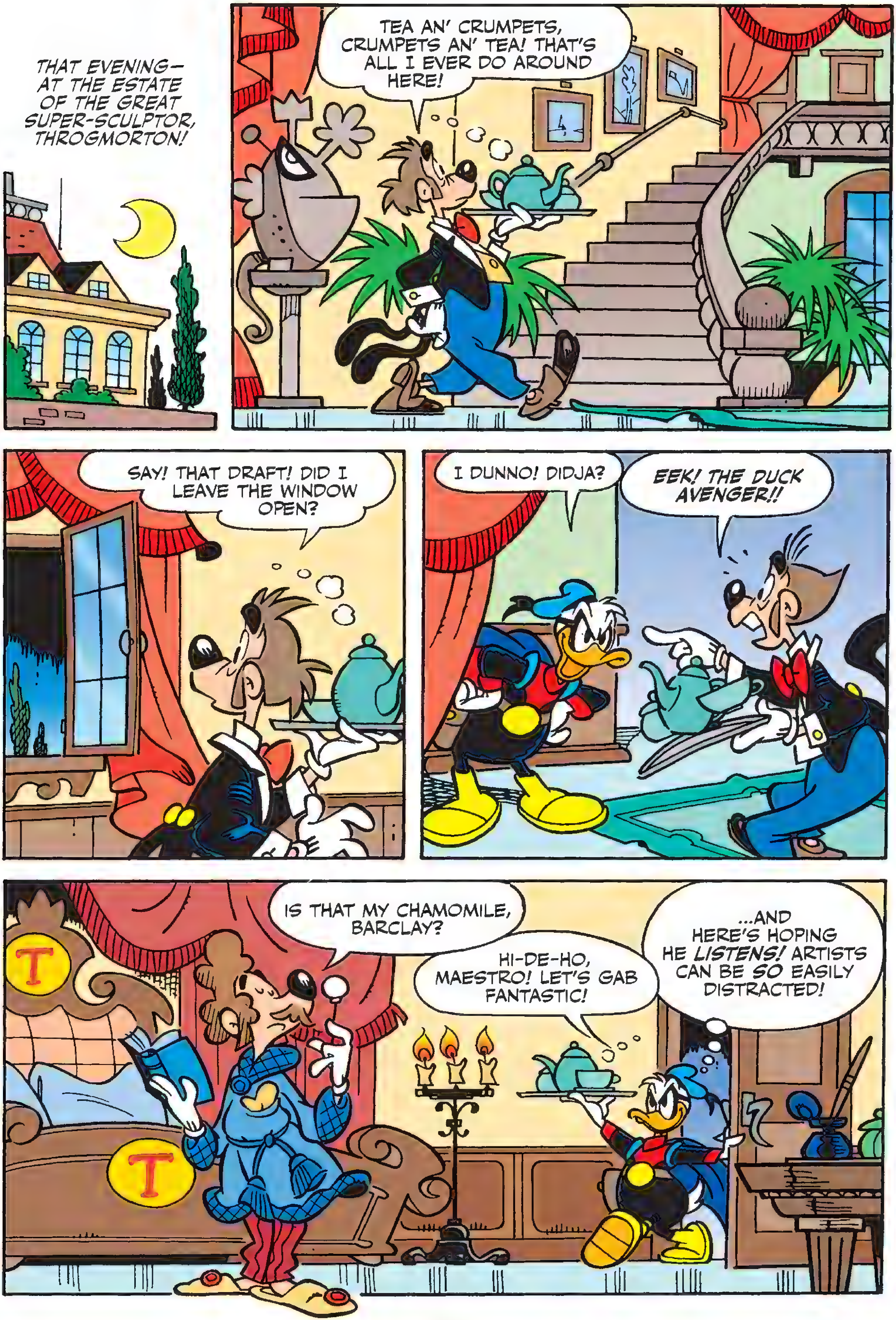

NOTHING ESCAPES MY LITTLE AJAX JR. SUPER-MICRO-INFRARED TELESCOPE!
FROM HERE MY STEELY GAZE COVERS ALL OF DUCKBURG...
AND SOON I'LL CLAP SPECTRUS IN STEELY HANDCUFFS!
BOUNCE
POUNCE
MR. MAYOR! KICKBACKS ARE FROWNED UPON—BUT I'M ALL ABOUT THOSE FAT WALLETS!

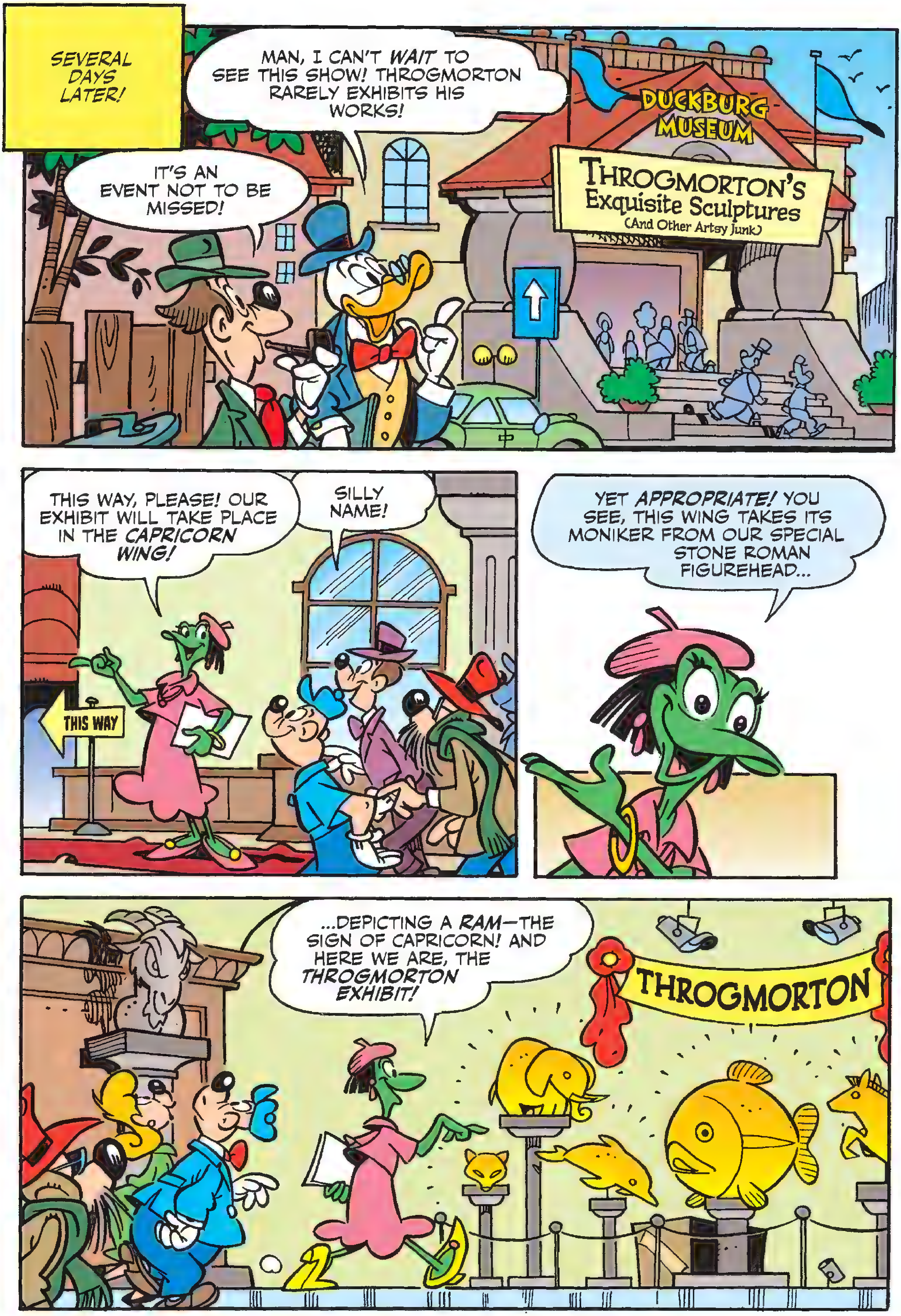

ARE YOU *ALSO* ALL ABOUT GETTING A GOOD *STOMPING,* MAGUS?
DUCK AVENGER!
TOO MANY CAPED CLOWNS IN THIS CITY, BUB...
SO LET ME SHOW *YOU* THE WAY *OUT!*
FLOOP
FLOOP
LIKE CATCHIN' FISH IN A BARREL!
REALLY? TRY TURNING AROUND!
PEEK-A-BOO, WADDLEBOTTOM! YOU CAUGHT AN *"ILLUSORY ME!"*
YEAH? WELL, LET'S SEE IF *YOU'RE* AN ILLUSION, *TOO!*

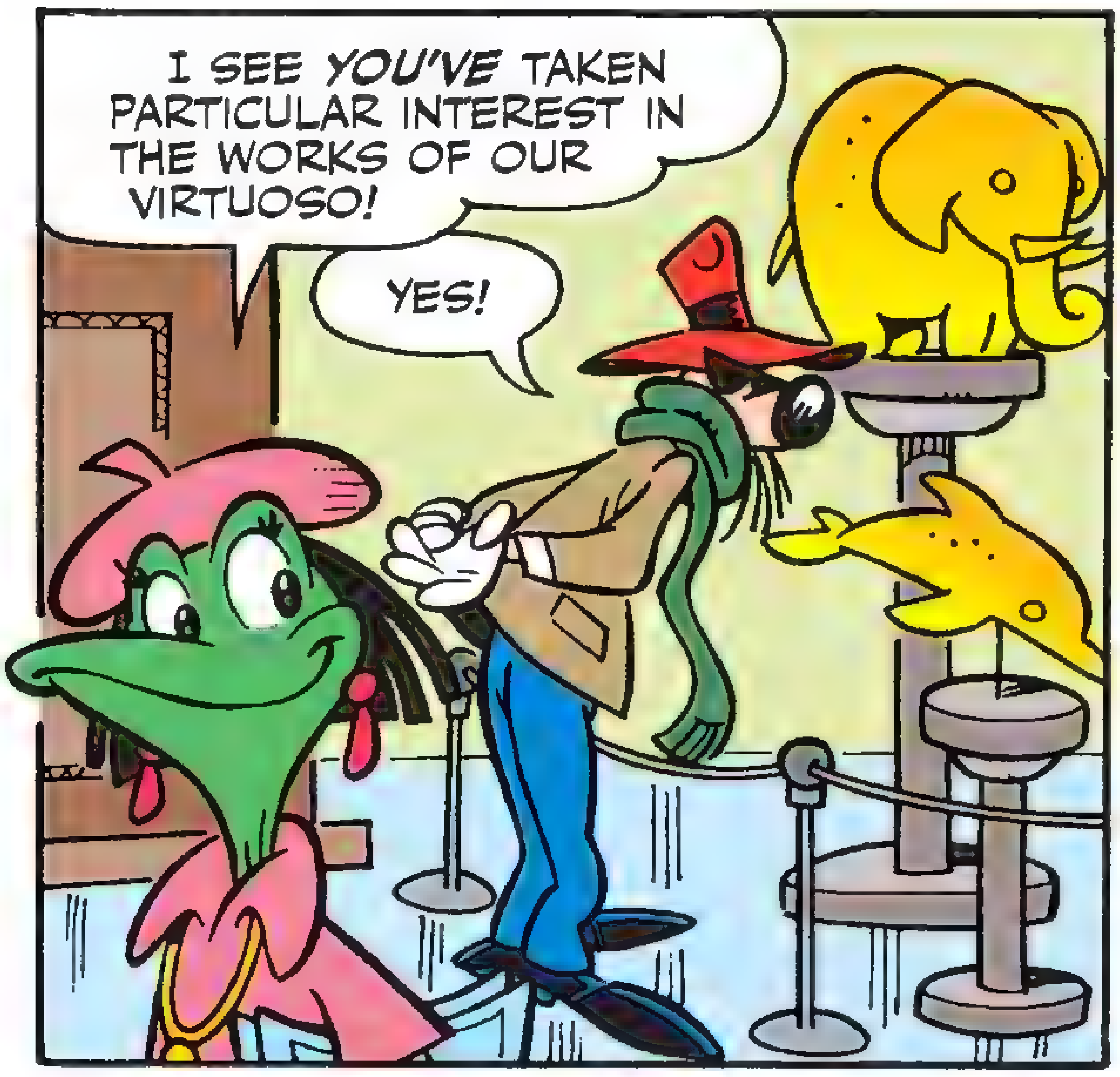

OOPS!
OF COURSE I AM, SILLY!
FOOF
ME TOO, CHUCKLES!
COME HERE OFTEN?
GRUNT! EVIL AND ANNOYING!
AWRIGHT, BEAKY... HERE I AM! THE REAL ME!
FOOF
FOOF
FOOF
BUT YOU, DUCK AVENGER... AREN'T THE REAL YOU...
ZOT

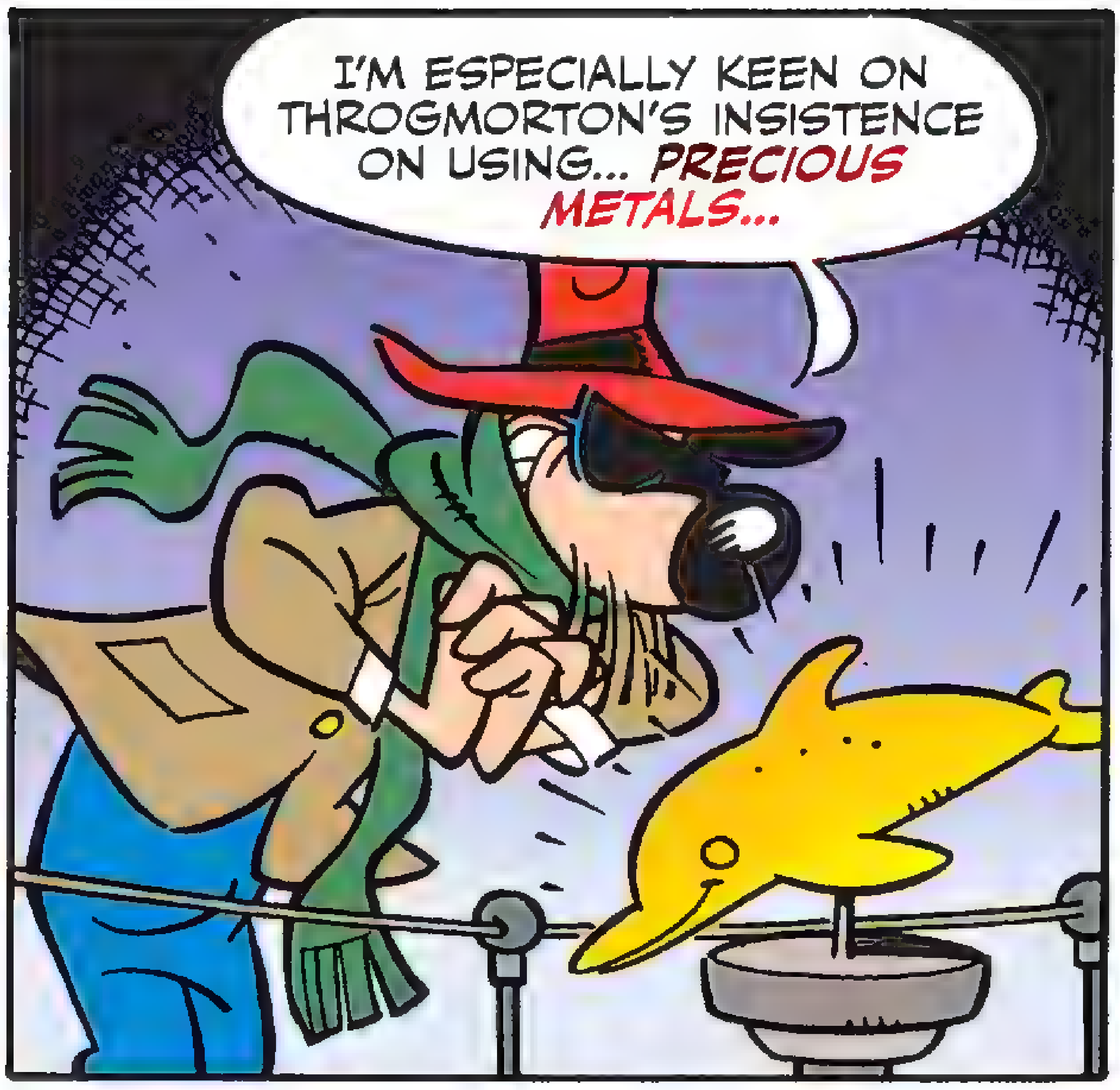

NO! I'M NOT THE DUCK AVENGER! I'M THE PRIMA BALLERINA!
THAT'S RIGHT, BLACK SWAN! PIROUETTE TILL MORNING, LEAVING ALL TO SEE HOW RIDICULOUS YOU ARE COMPARED TO ME! BWAHAHA!!!
PLIÉ
JETÉ
ALLEGRO
NEXT DAY!
I'VE BEEN THIS HUMILIATED BEFORE, BUT MY ALTER EGO NEVER HAS!
DUCK AVENGER, ACTUAL LAUGHINGSTOCK!
DAILY QUACK
OMG DUCK AVENGER LOO RIDICULOUS
Duckburg Chronicl
DUNCE DANCE REVOLUTION!

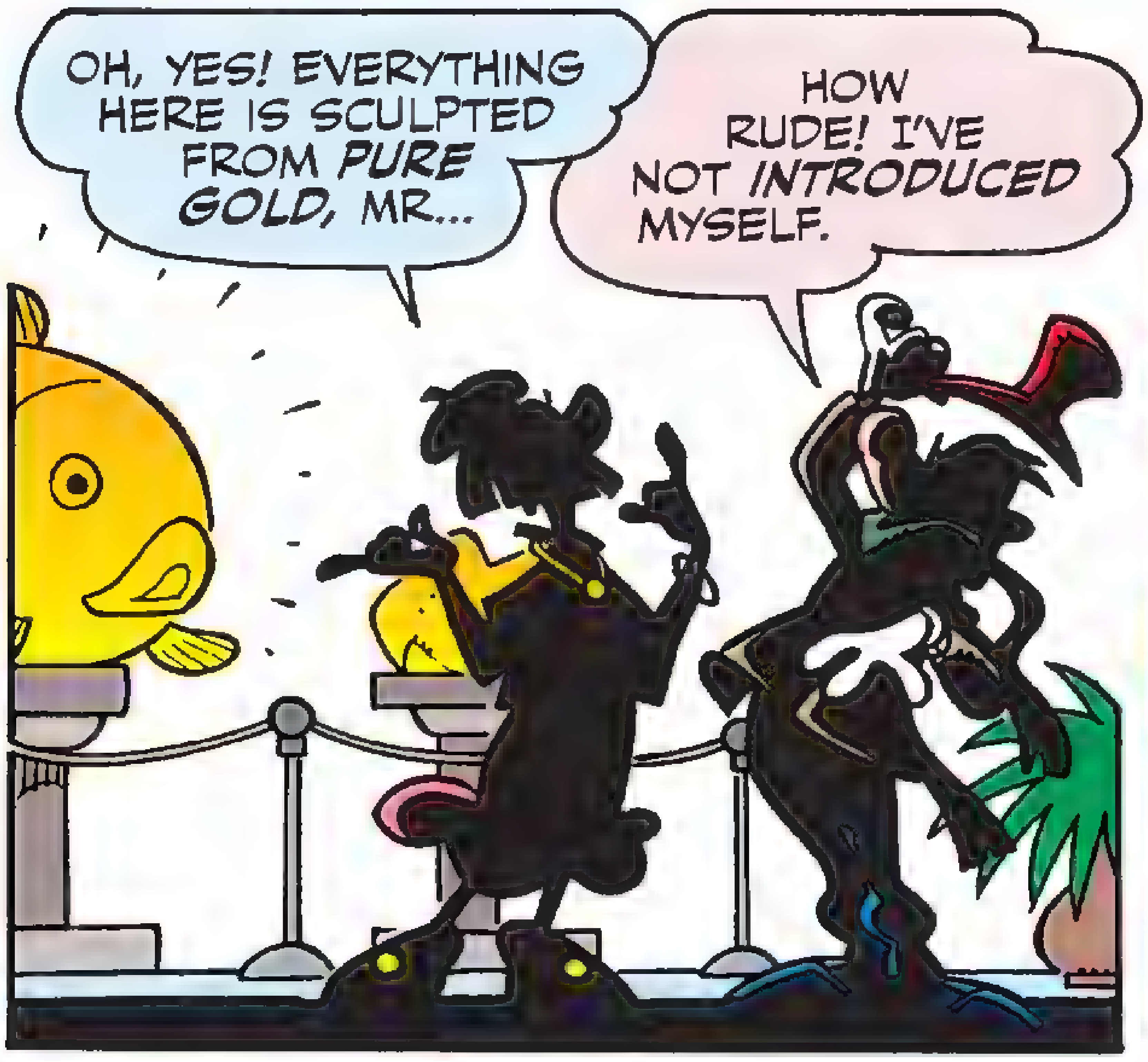

AND IT'S NOT *JUST* IN THE *PAPERS*...
$10
$15
OBLIGATORY COSTUME SALESMAN
ARE YOU KIDDIN', MA? I'D BE THE *JOKE* OF MY ENTIRE CLASS!
THAT DID IT! SPECTRUS HAS MY DANDER UP! NOW I *GOTTA* OUTWIT HIM—AND *GYRO* WILL KNOW *HOW!*
OH, SO?
SORRY, DONALD! BUT THIS TIME I *CAN'T* HELP THE DUCK AVENGER!
GYRO GEARLOOSE INVENTIONS WHILE-U-WAIT
313
SCIENCE IS *UNRELIABLE* AGAINST *MAGIC!* AND THAT HOODOO'S HYPNOTIC EYE IS *100%* SUPERNATURAL!
NERTZ!
BUT—IF I APPLY THE *"SCIENTIFIC-TO-SUPERNATURAL MIRRORING PRINCIPLE"*... HMMM!
GOT A BRAINSTORM, EH?!

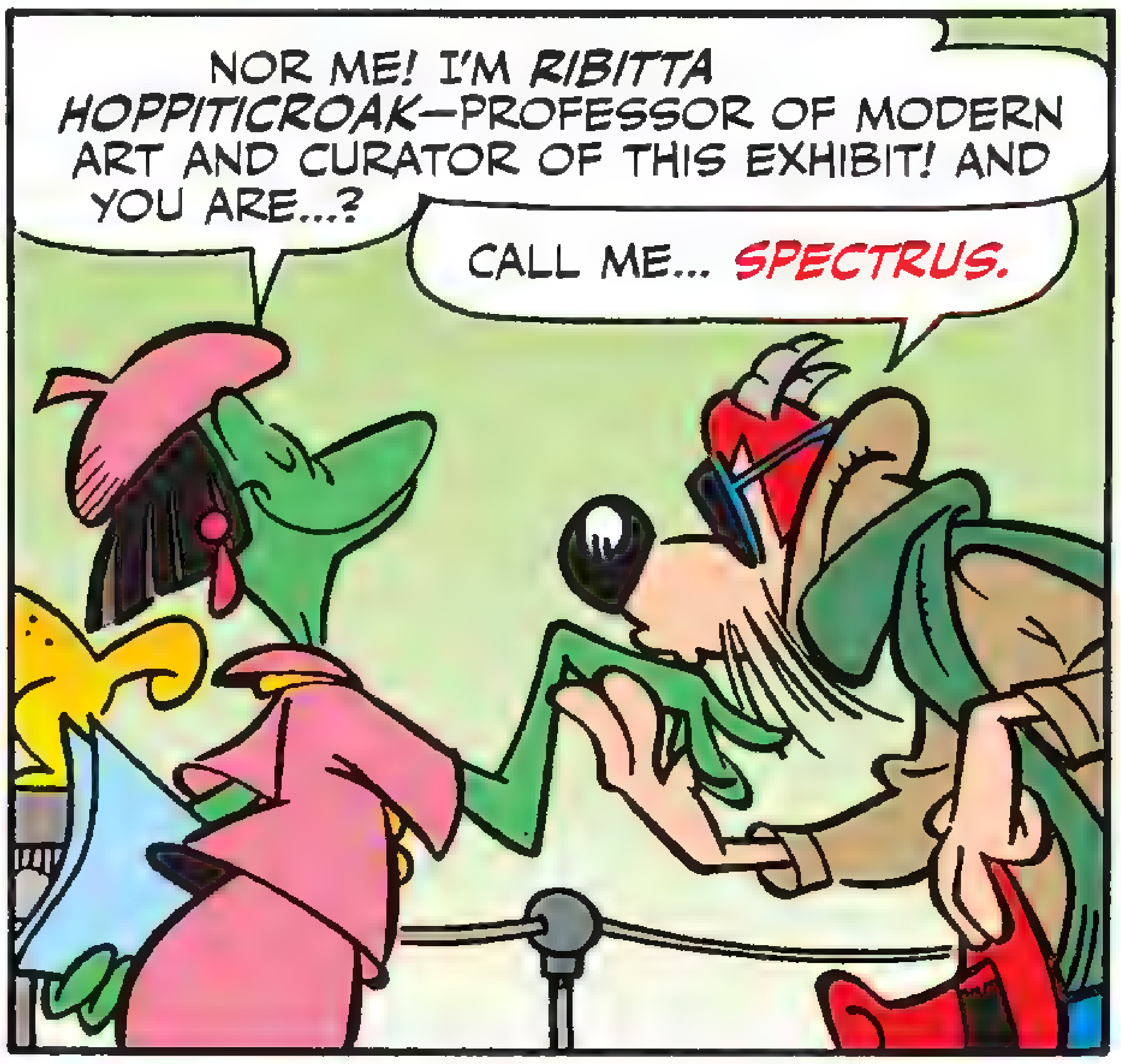

THAT EVENING— AT THE ESTATE OF THE GREAT SUPER-SCULPTOR, THROGMORTON!
TEA AN' CRUMPETS, CRUMPETS AN' TEA! THAT'S ALL I EVER DO AROUND HERE!
SAY! THAT DRAFT! DID I LEAVE THE WINDOW OPEN?
I DUNNO! DIDJA?
EEK! THE DUCK AVENGER!!
IS THAT MY CHAMOMILE, BARCLAY?
HI-DE-HO, MAESTRO! LET'S GAB FANTASTIC!
...AND HERE'S HOPING HE *LISTENS!* ARTISTS CAN BE *SO* EASILY DISTRACTED!
T
T

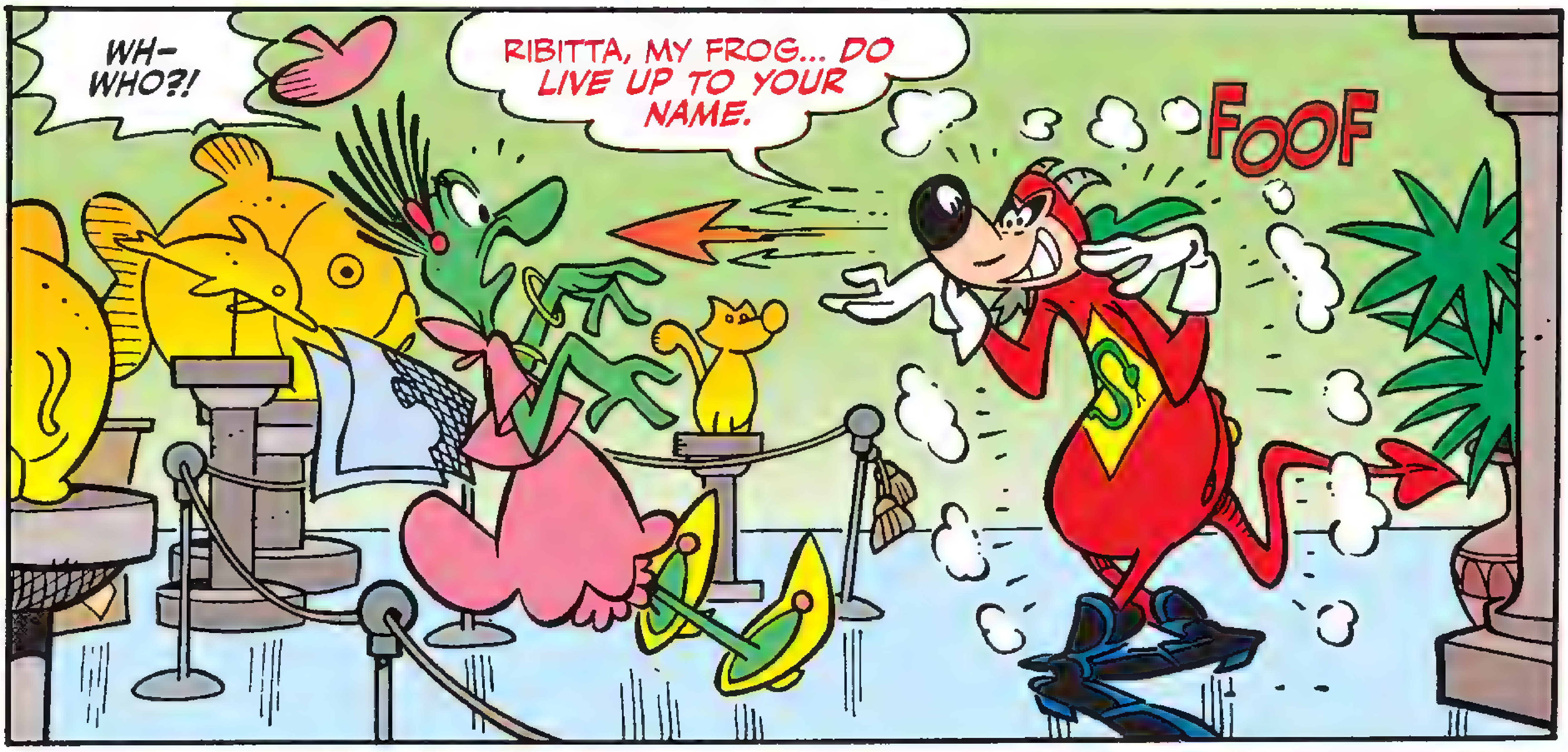

SEVERAL DAYS LATER!
MAN, I CAN'T *WAIT* TO SEE THIS SHOW! THROGMORTON RARELY EXHIBITS HIS WORKS!
IT'S AN EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED!
DUCKBURG MUSEUM
THROGMORTON'S Exquisite Sculptures (And Other Artsy Junk)
THIS WAY, PLEASE! OUR EXHIBIT WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE *CAPRICORN WING!*
SILLY NAME!
THIS WAY
YET *APPROPRIATE!* YOU SEE, THIS WING TAKES ITS MONIKER FROM OUR SPECIAL STONE ROMAN FIGUREHEAD...
...DEPICTING A *RAM*—THE SIGN OF CAPRICORN! AND HERE WE ARE, THE *THROGMORTON EXHIBIT!*
THROGMORTON

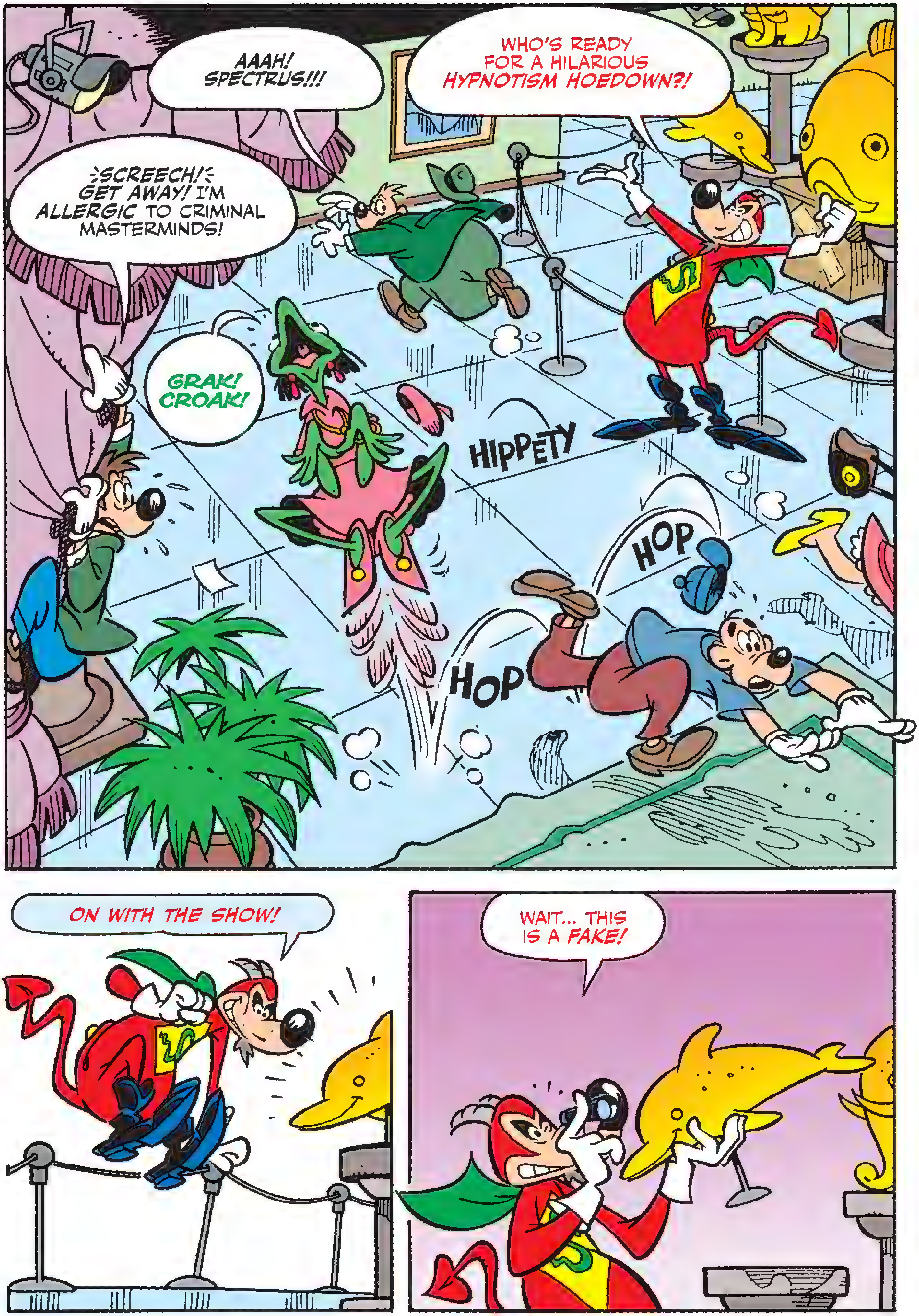

I SEE *YOU'VE* TAKEN PARTICULAR INTEREST IN THE WORKS OF OUR VIRTUOSO!
YES!

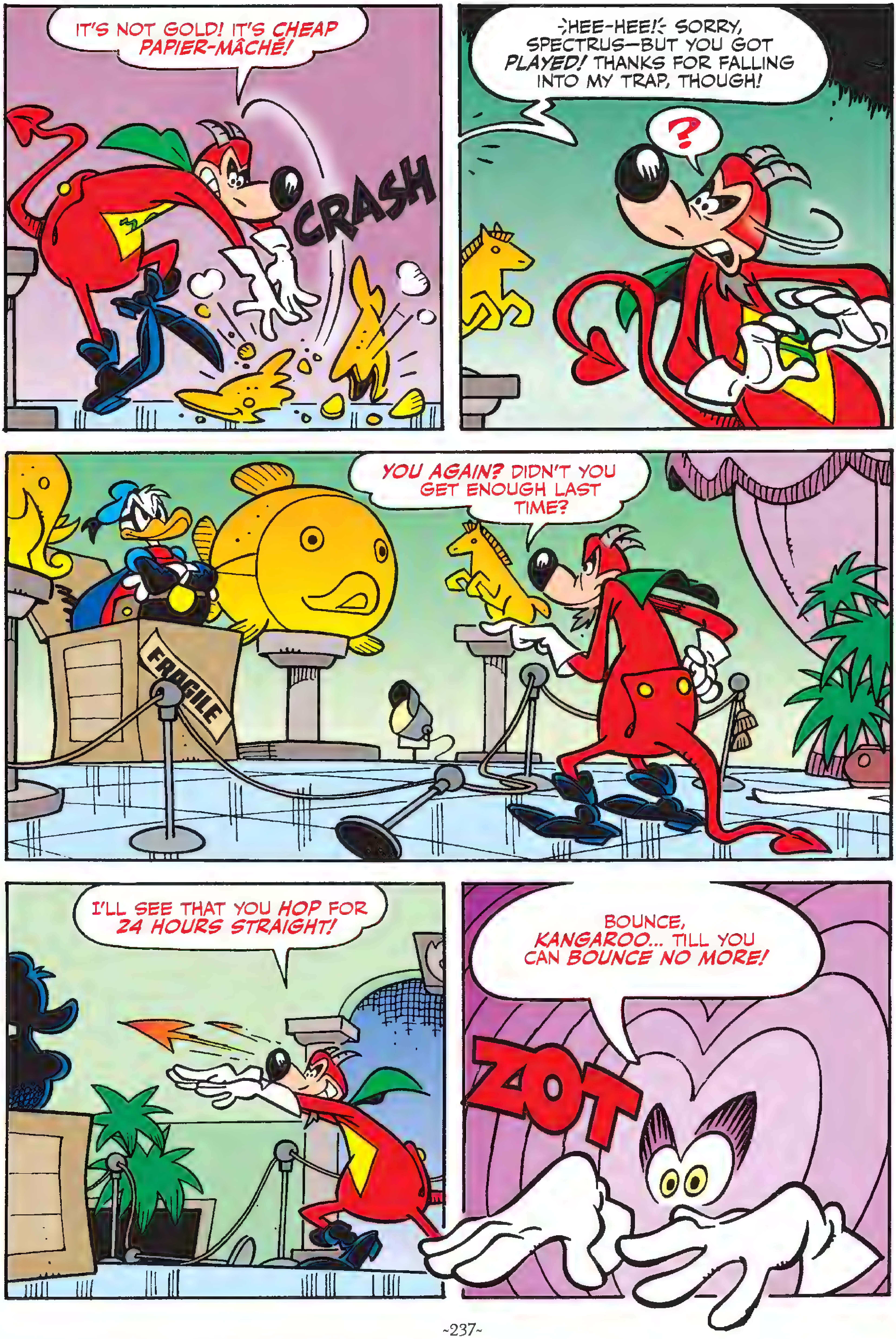

I'M ESPECIALLY KEEN ON THROGMORTON'S INSISTENCE ON USING... *PRECIOUS METALS...*

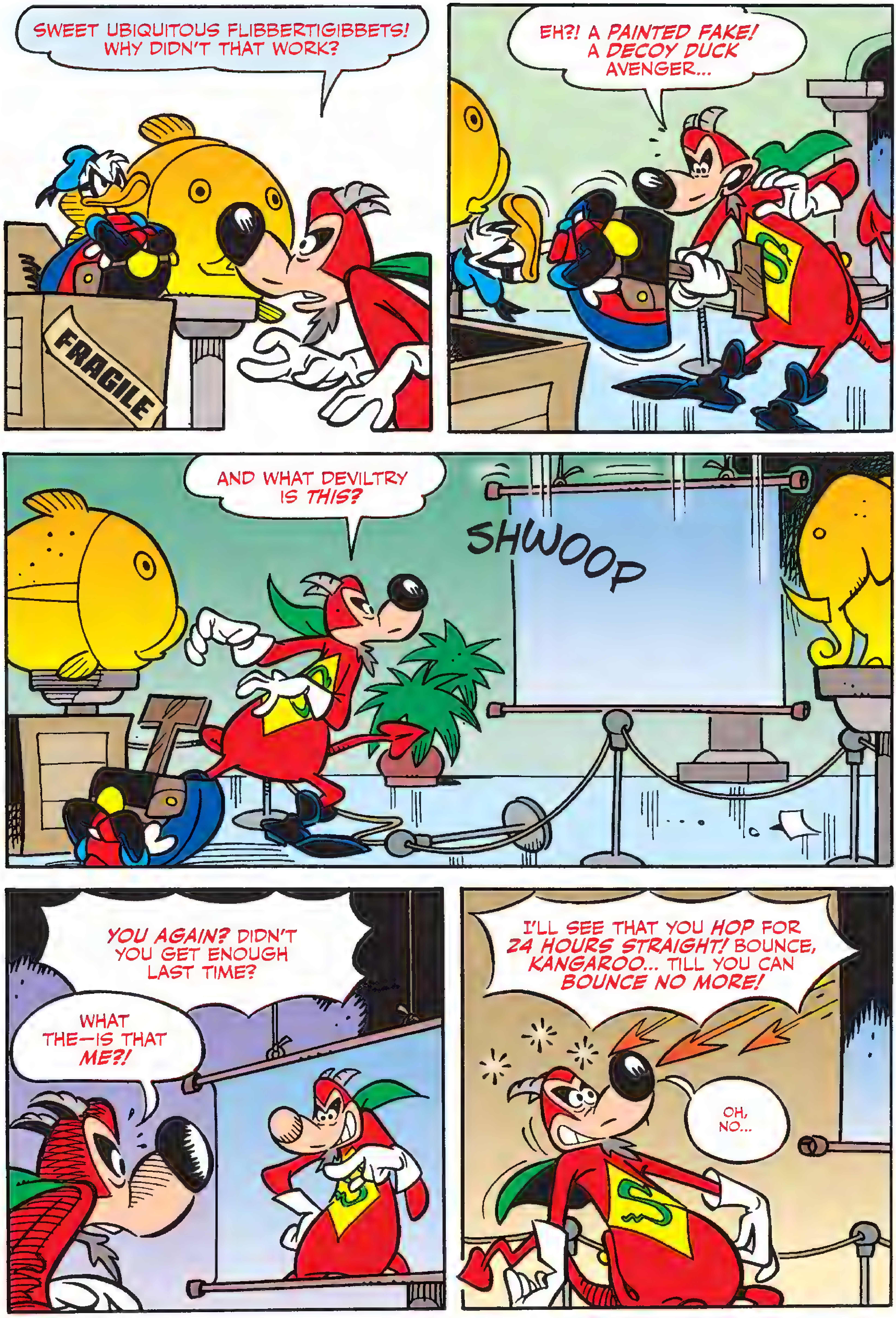

OH, YES! EVERYTHING HERE IS SCULPTED FROM *PURE GOLD,* MR...
HOW RUDE! I'VE NOT *INTRODUCED* MYSELF.

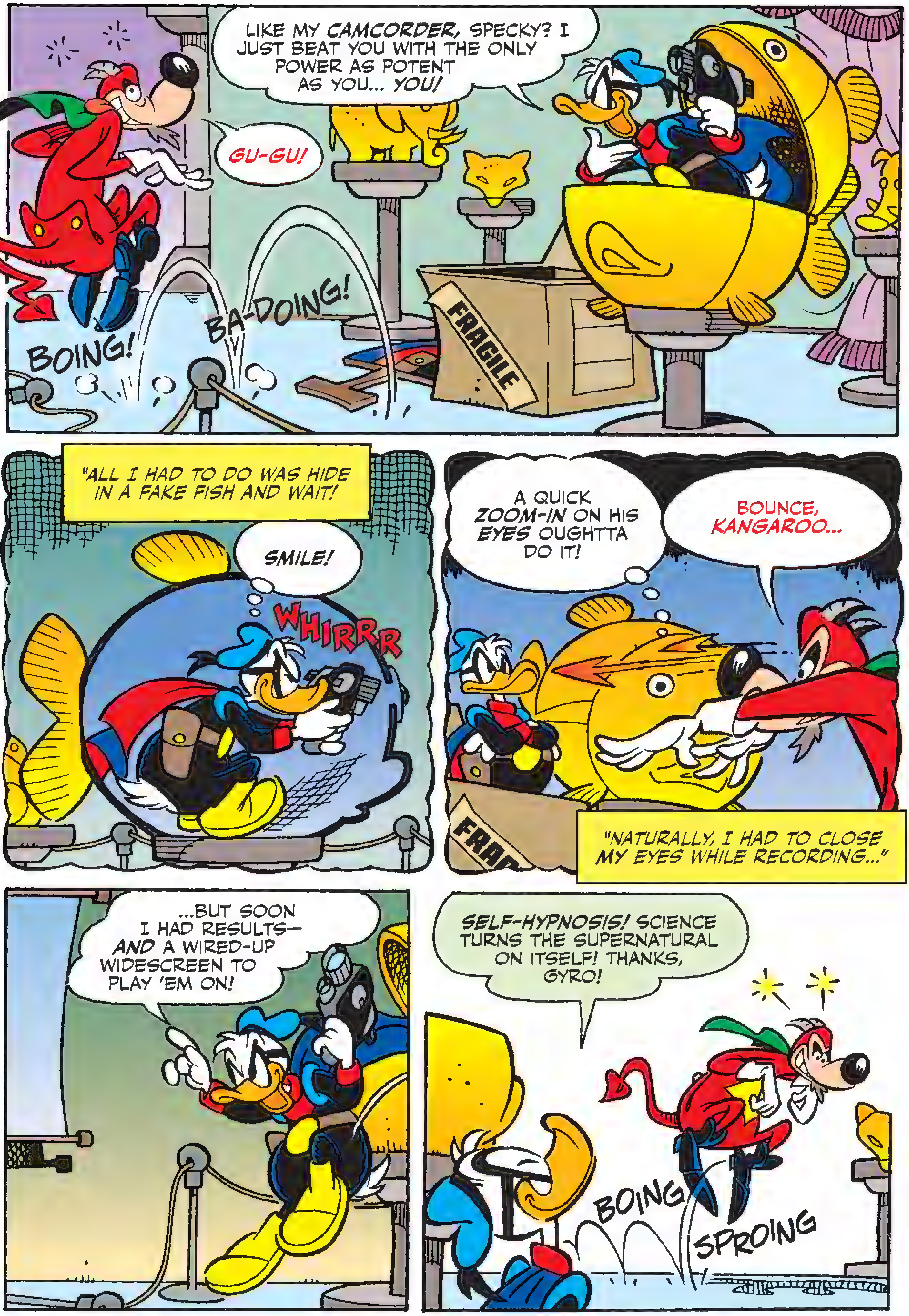

NOR ME! I'M *RIBITTA HOPPITICROAK*—PROFESSOR OF MODERN ART AND CURATOR OF THIS EXHIBIT! AND YOU ARE...?
CALL ME... *SPECTRUS.*

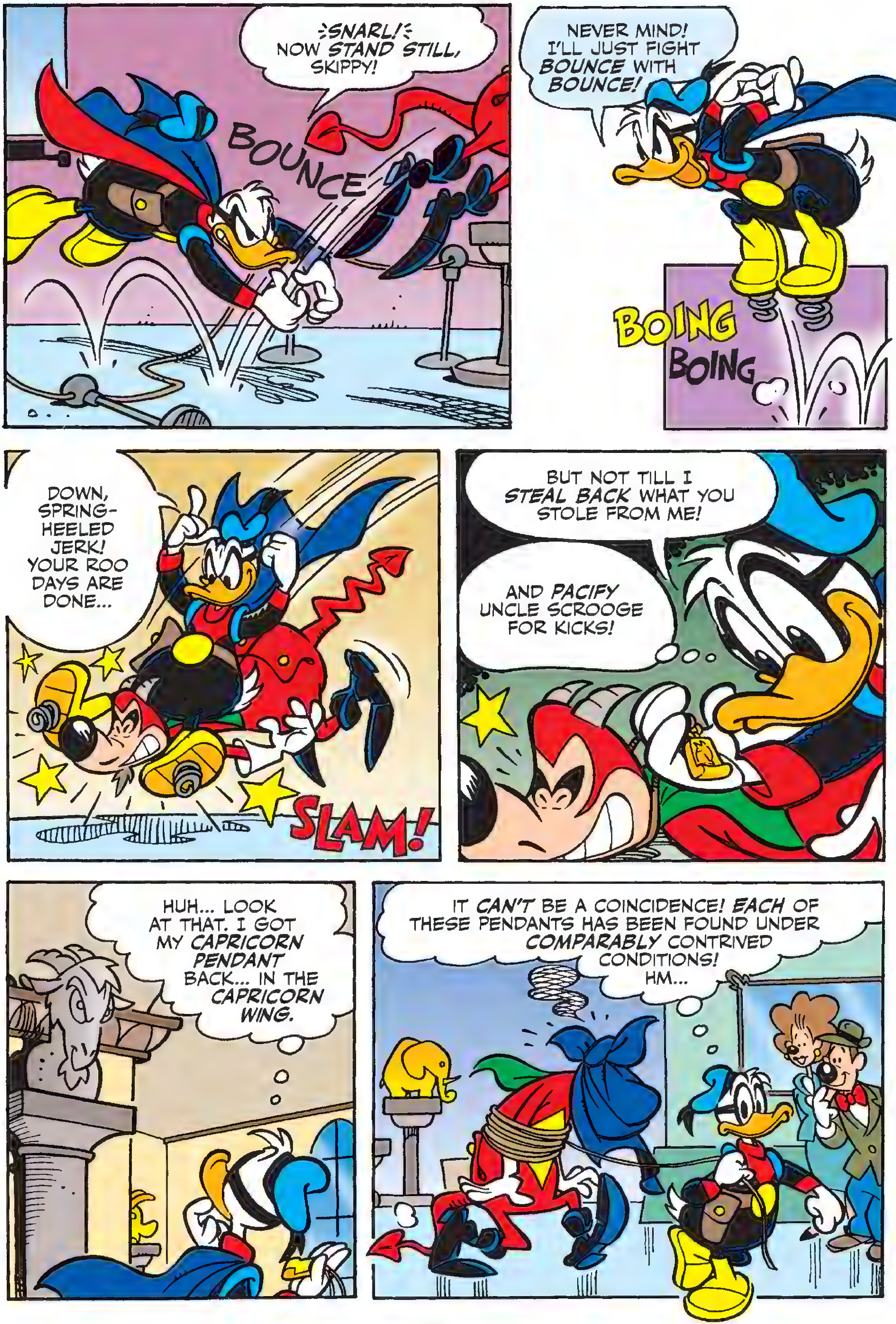

WH-WHO?!
RIBITTA, MY FROG... *DO LIVE UP TO YOUR NAME.*
FOOF

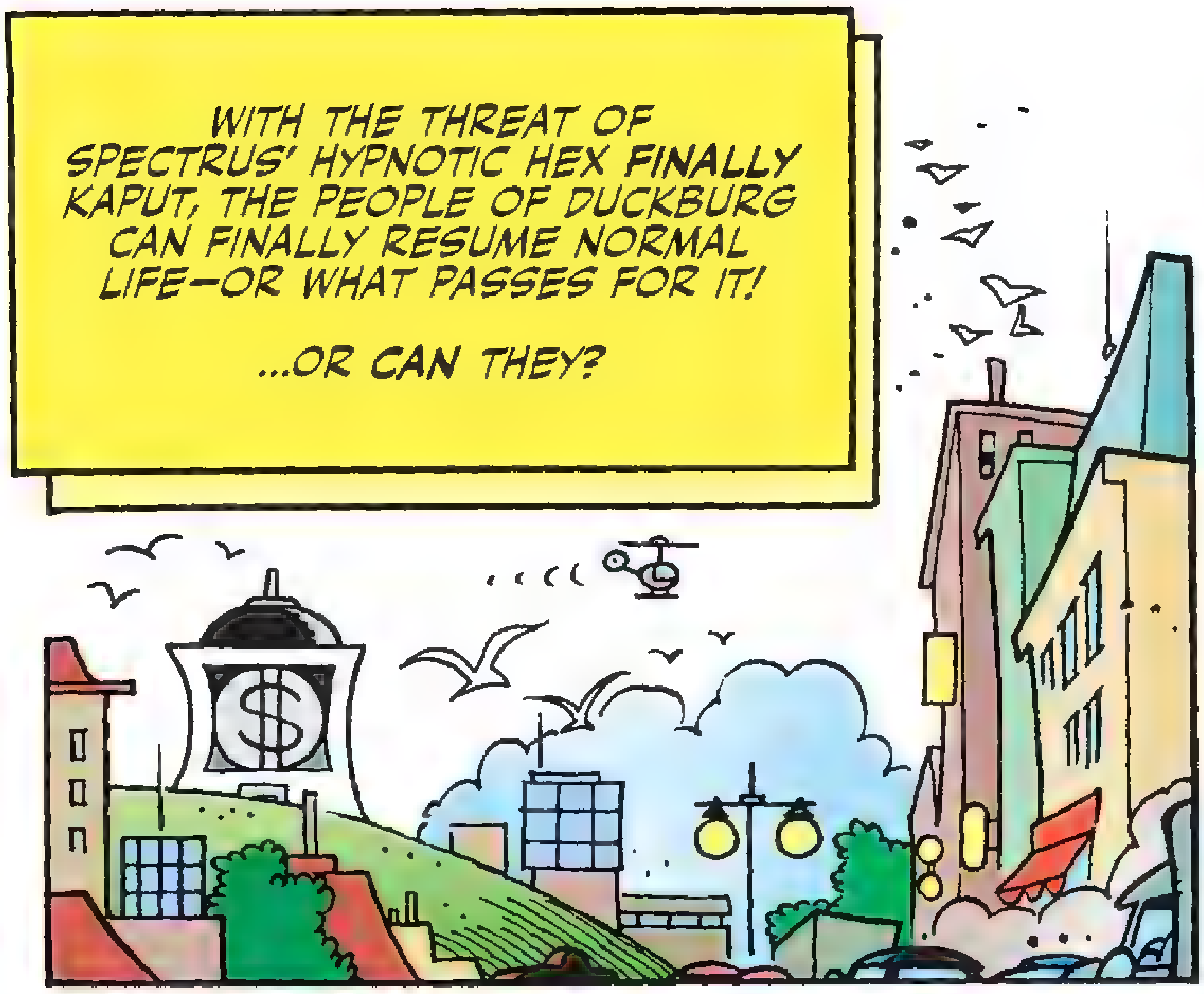

AAAH! SPECTRUS!!!
WHO'S READY FOR A HILARIOUS HYPNOTISM HOEDOWN?!
:SCREECH!: GET AWAY! I'M ALLERGIC TO CRIMINAL MASTERMINDS!
GRAK! CROAK!
HIPPETY
HOP
HOP
ON WITH THE SHOW!
WAIT... THIS IS A FAKE!

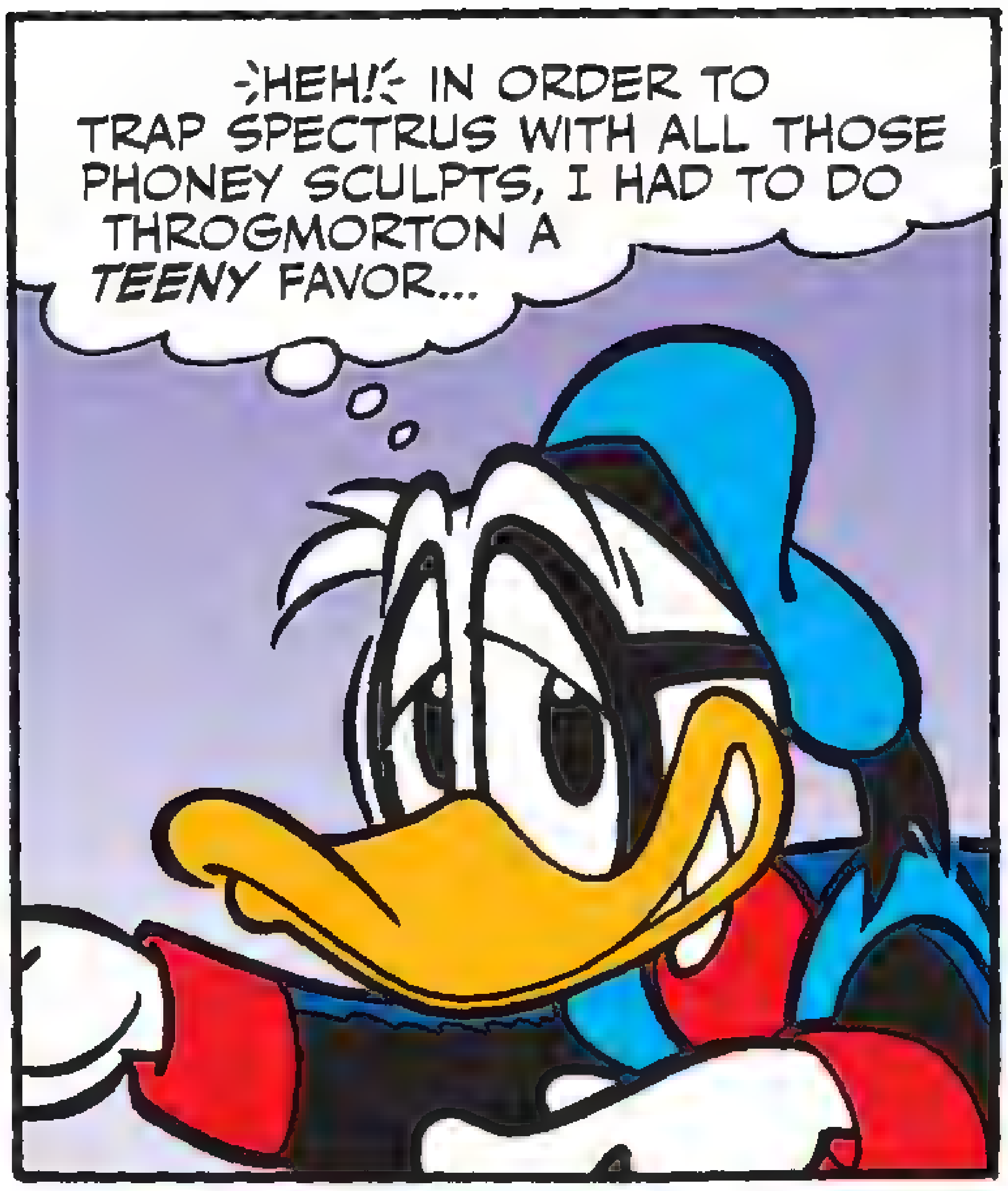

IT'S NOT GOLD! IT'S *CHEAP PAPIER-MÂCHÉ!*
CRASH
HEE-HEE! SORRY, SPECTRUS—BUT YOU GOT *PLAYED!* THANKS FOR FALLING INTO MY TRAP, THOUGH!
?
YOU AGAIN? DIDN'T YOU GET ENOUGH LAST TIME?
FRAGILE
I'LL SEE THAT YOU *HOP* FOR *24 HOURS STRAIGHT!*
BOUNCE, *KANGAROO...* TILL YOU CAN *BOUNCE NO MORE!*
ZOT

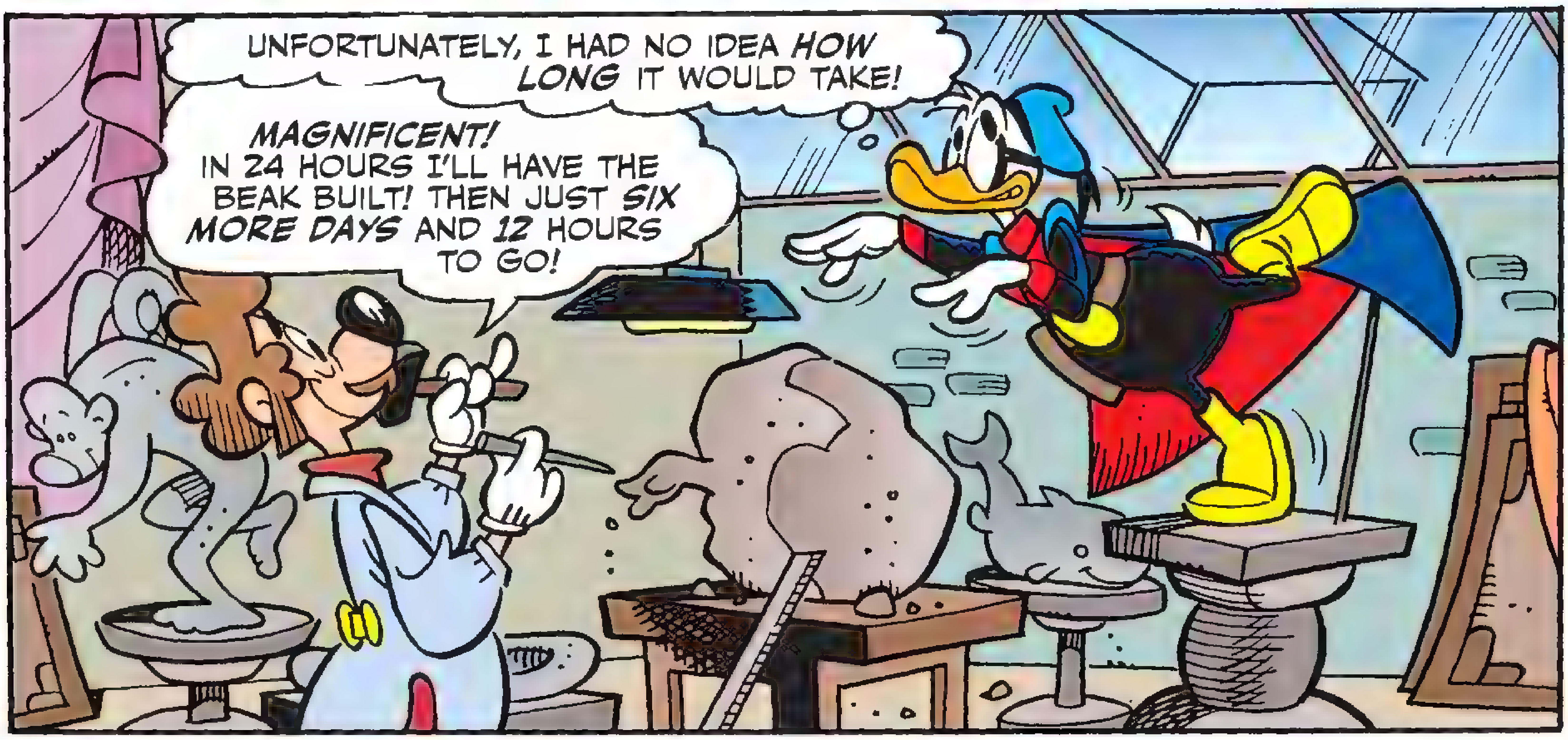

SWEET UBIQUITOUS FLIBBERTIGIBBETS! WHY DIDN'T THAT WORK?
FRAGILE
EH?! A *PAINTED FAKE!* A *DECOY DUCK* AVENGER...
AND WHAT DEVILTRY IS *THIS?*
SHWOOP
YOU AGAIN? DIDN'T YOU GET ENOUGH LAST TIME?
WHAT THE—IS THAT *ME?!*
I'LL SEE THAT YOU *HOP* FOR *24 HOURS STRAIGHT!* BOUNCE, *KANGAROO...* TILL YOU CAN *BOUNCE NO MORE!*
OH, NO...

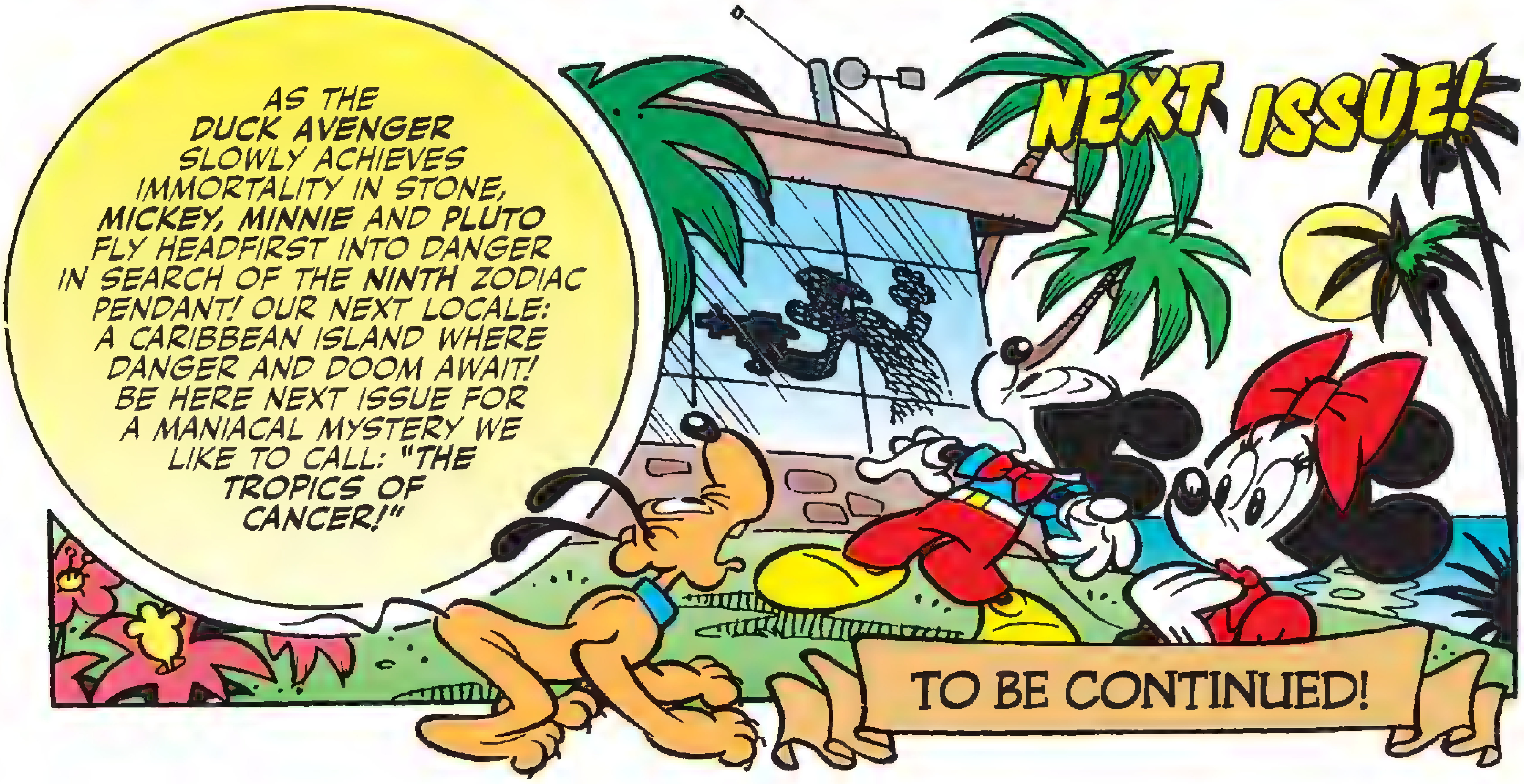

LIKE MY *CAMCORDER*, SPECKY? I JUST BEAT YOU WITH THE ONLY POWER AS POTENT AS YOU... *YOU!*
GU-GU!
BOING!
BA-DOING!
FRAGILE
"ALL I HAD TO DO WAS HIDE IN A FAKE FISH AND WAIT!
SMILE!
WHIRRR
A QUICK *ZOOM-IN* ON HIS *EYES* OUGHTTA DO IT!
BOUNCE, *KANGAROO...*
FRAG
"NATURALLY, I HAD TO CLOSE MY EYES WHILE RECORDING..."
...BUT SOON I HAD RESULTS— *AND* A WIRED-UP WIDESCREEN TO PLAY 'EM ON!
SELF-HYPNOSIS! SCIENCE TURNS THE SUPERNATURAL ON ITSELF! THANKS, GYRO!
BOING
SPROING


⁝SNARL!⁝ NOW *STAND STILL*, SKIPPY!
BOUNCE
NEVER MIND! I'LL JUST FIGHT *BOUNCE* WITH *BOUNCE!*
BOING
BOING
DOWN, SPRING-HEELED JERK! YOUR ROO DAYS ARE DONE...
SLAM!
BUT NOT TILL I *STEAL BACK* WHAT YOU STOLE FROM ME!
AND *PACIFY* UNCLE SCROOGE FOR KICKS!
HUH... LOOK AT THAT. I GOT MY *CAPRICORN PENDANT* BACK... IN THE *CAPRICORN WING.*
IT *CAN'T* BE A COINCIDENCE! *EACH* OF THESE PENDANTS HAS BEEN FOUND UNDER *COMPARABLY* CONTRIVED CONDITIONS! HM...

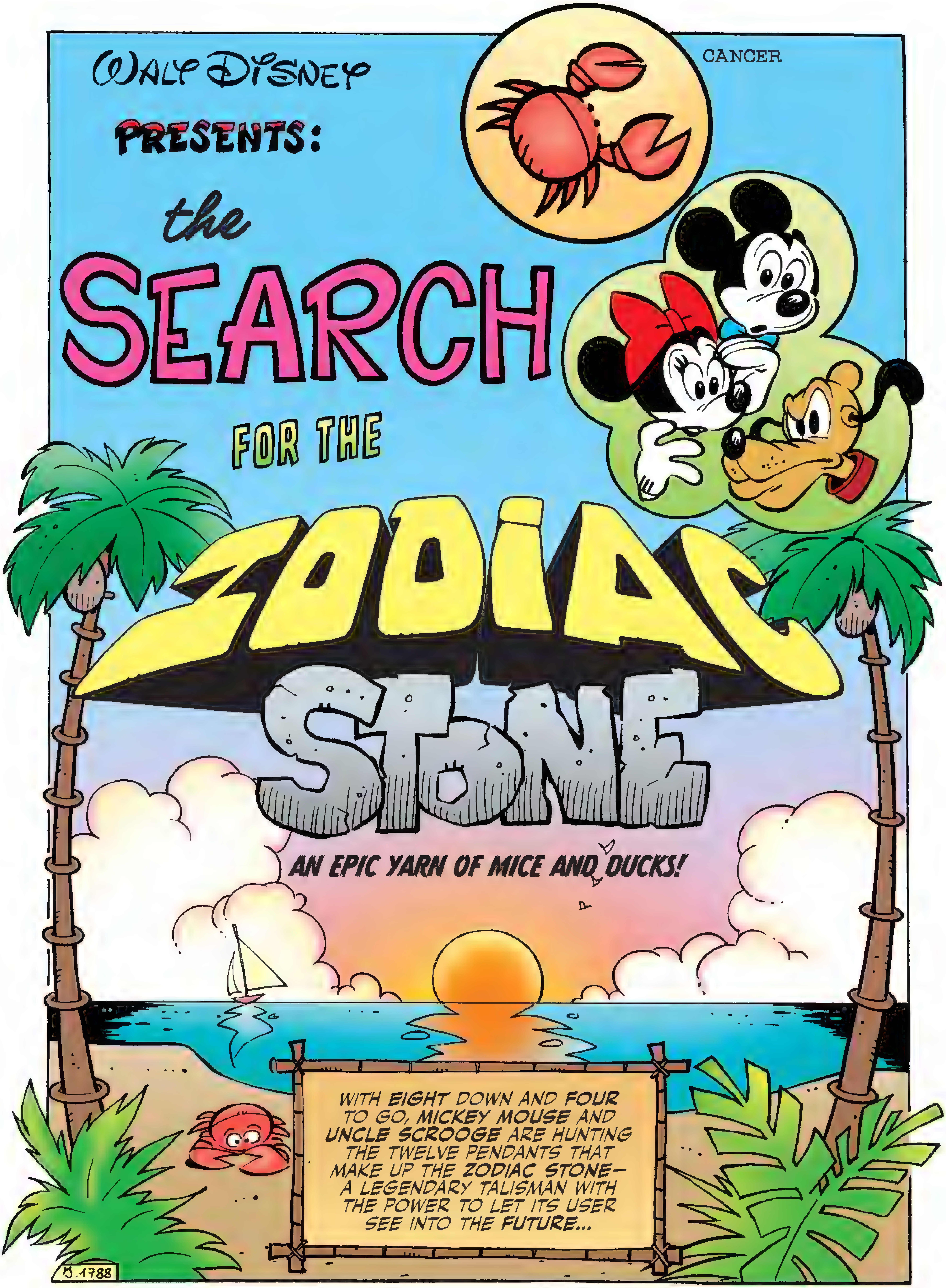

WITH THE THREAT OF SPECTRUS' HYPNOTIC HEX **FINALLY** KAPUT, THE PEOPLE OF DUCKBURG CAN FINALLY RESUME NORMAL LIFE—OR WHAT PASSES FOR IT!
...OR **CAN** THEY?


HEH! IN ORDER TO TRAP SPECTRUS WITH ALL THOSE PHONEY SCULPTS, I HAD TO DO THROGMORTON A *TEENY* FAVOR...


UNFORTUNATELY, I HAD NO IDEA *HOW LONG* IT WOULD TAKE!
MAGNIFICENT! IN 24 HOURS I'LL HAVE THE BEAK BUILT! THEN JUST *SIX MORE DAYS* AND 12 HOURS TO GO!


NEXT ISSUE!
AS THE **DUCK AVENGER** SLOWLY ACHIEVES IMMORTALITY IN STONE, **MICKEY, MINNIE AND PLUTO** FLY HEADFIRST INTO DANGER IN SEARCH OF THE **NINTH** ZODIAC PENDANT! OUR NEXT LOCALE: A CARIBBEAN ISLAND WHERE DANGER AND DOOM AWAIT! BE HERE NEXT ISSUE FOR A MANIACAL MYSTERY WE LIKE TO CALL: **"THE TROPICS OF CANCER!"**
TO BE CONTINUED!

AW, C'MON! ANOTHER DOUBLE?!
HYACK! YUH ACT LIKE YER SURPRISED! SURELY YUH REMEMBER YER DEAR TWIN BROTHER...
BOING
DUCK AVENGER!
TOO MANY CAPED CLOWNS IN THIS CITY, BUB...
–CRABS!
BAU
BAU
CAIIIIII
CLACK


WALT DISNEY
PRESENTS:
the SEARCH FOR THE ZODIAC STONE
CANCER
AN EPIC YARN OF MICE AND DUCKS!
WITH EIGHT DOWN AND FOUR TO GO, MICKEY MOUSE AND UNCLE SCROOGE ARE HUNTING THE TWELVE PENDANTS THAT MAKE UP THE ZODIAC STONE— A LEGENDARY TALISMAN WITH THE POWER TO LET ITS USER SEE INTO THE FUTURE...
T.1788

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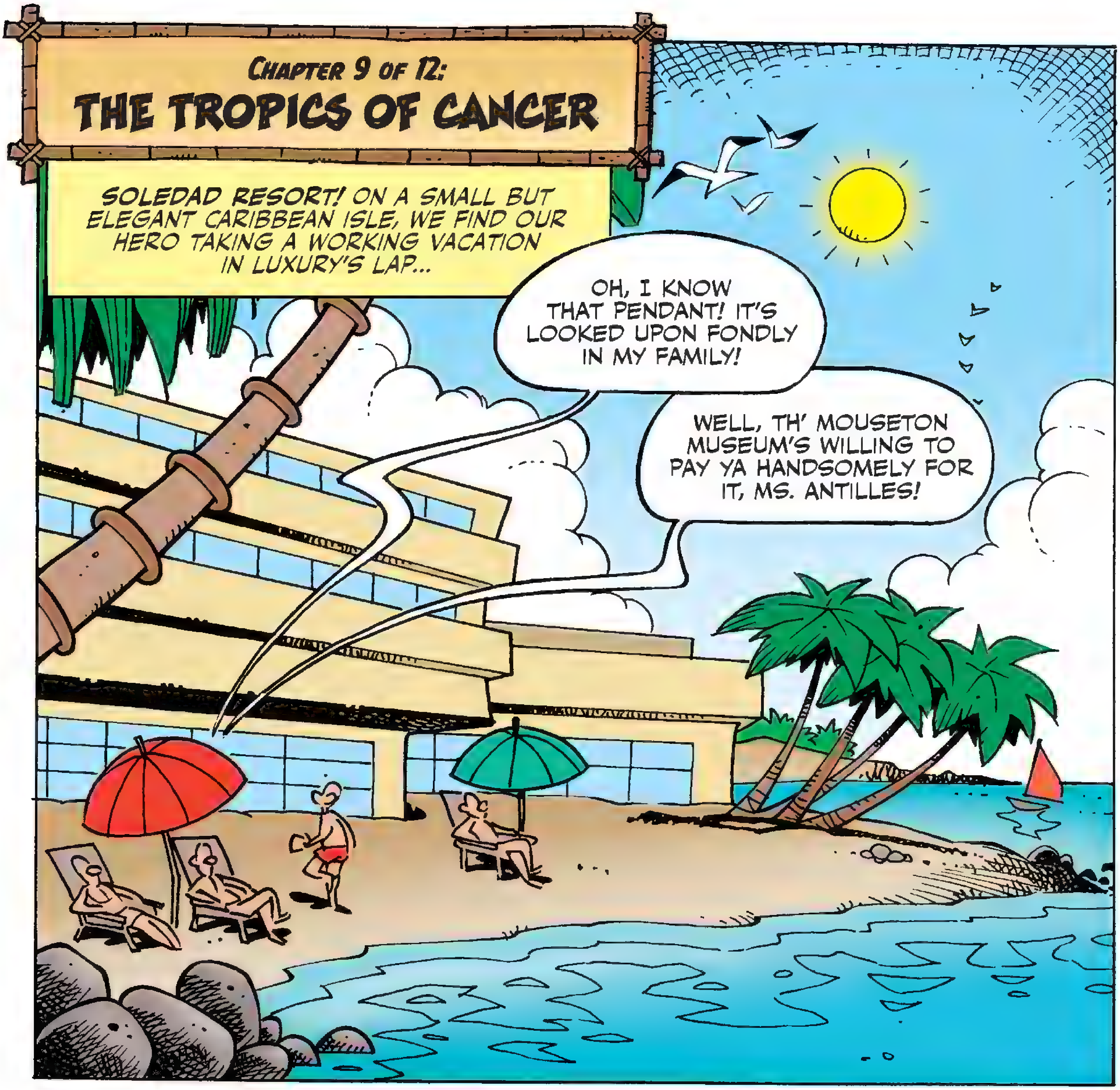
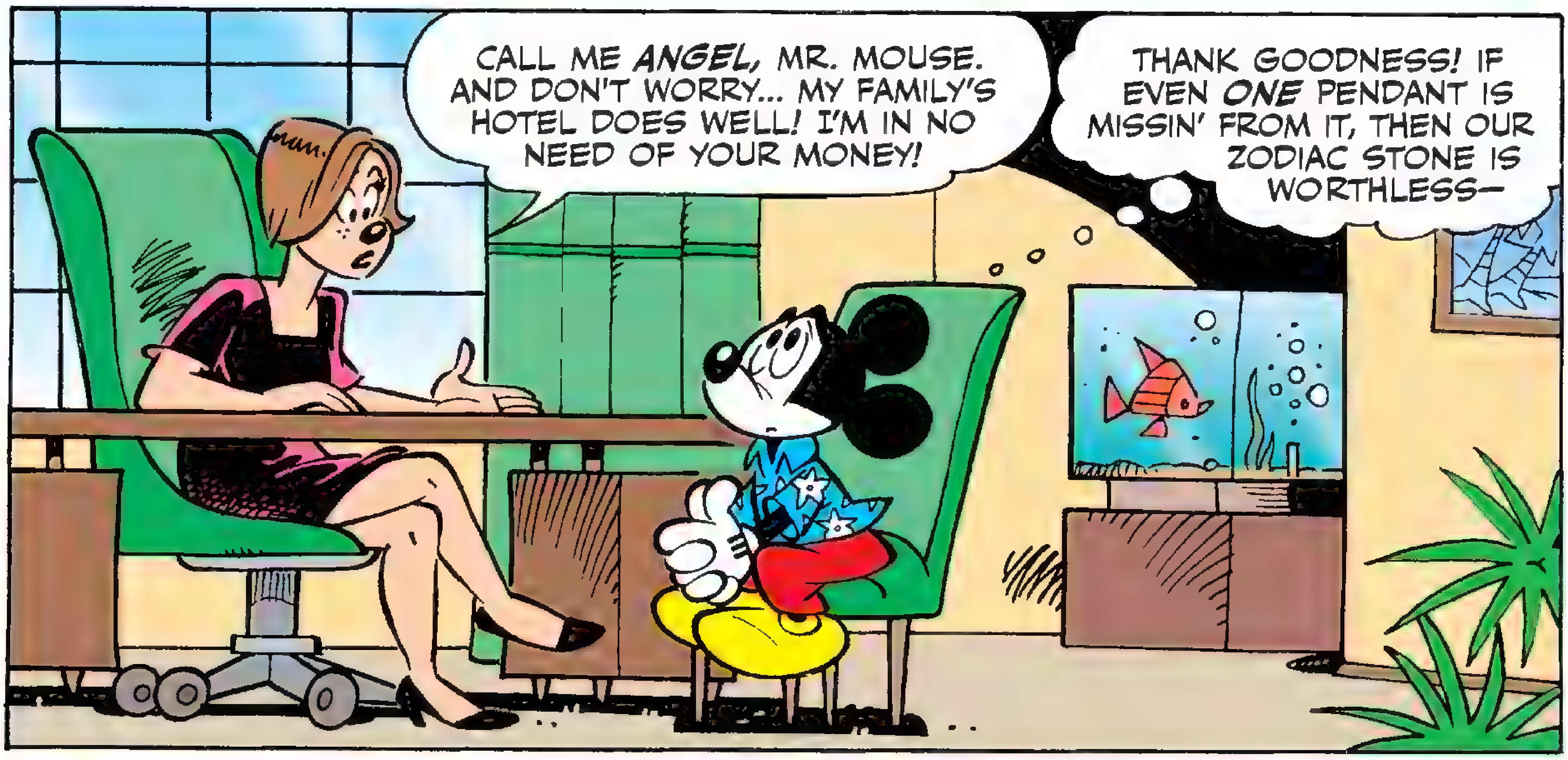
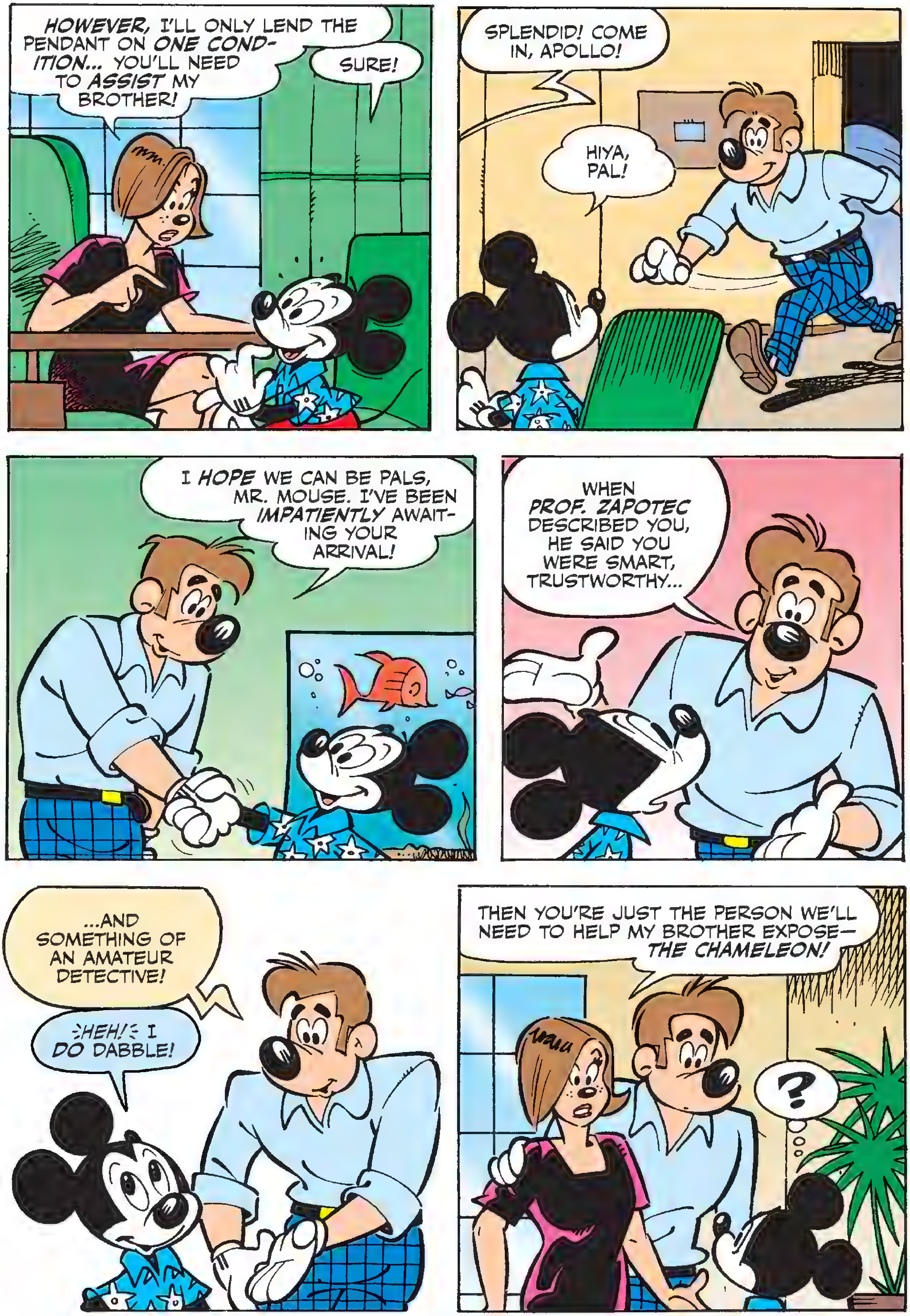
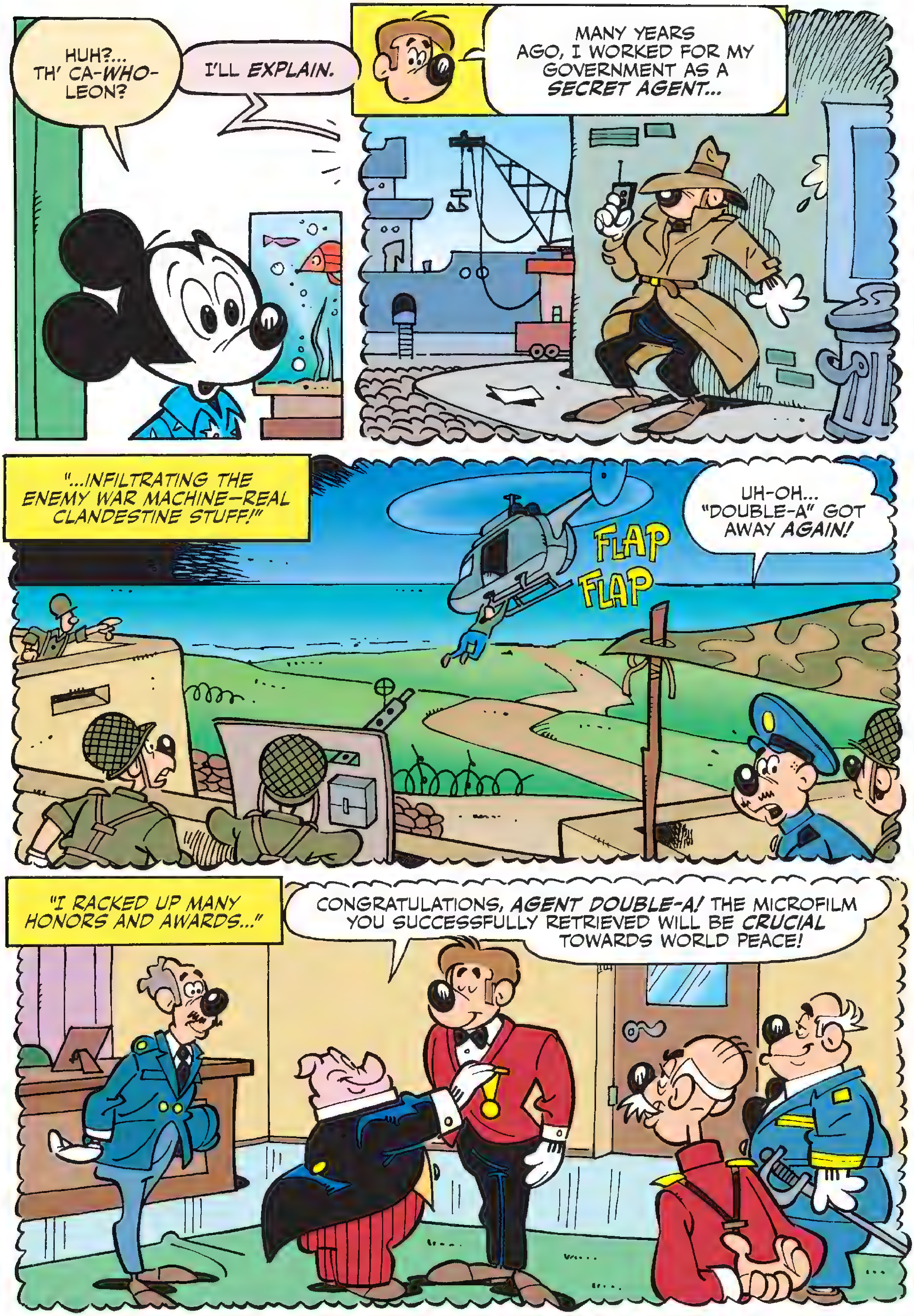
CHAPTER 9 OF 12:

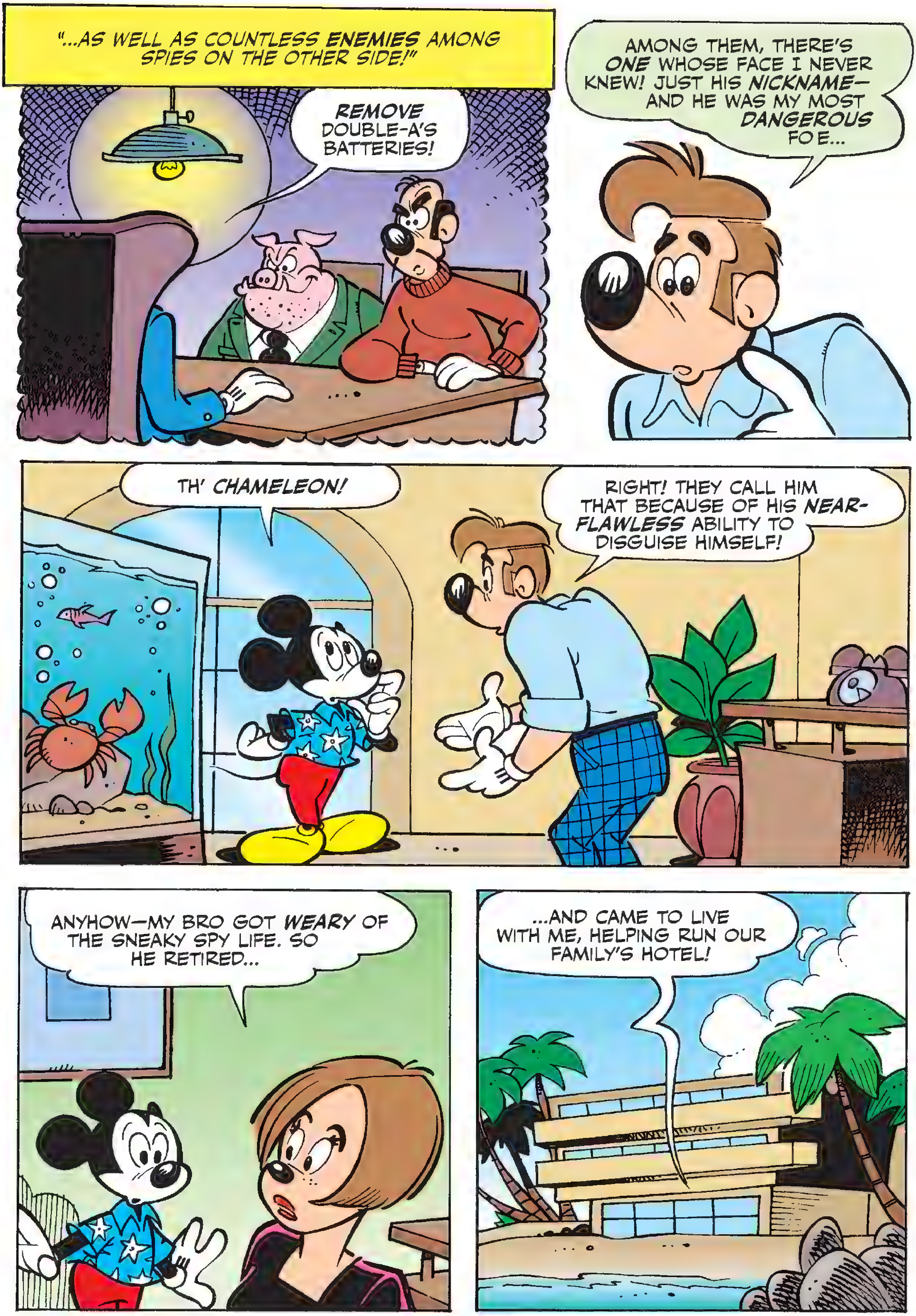
THE TROPICS OF CANCER

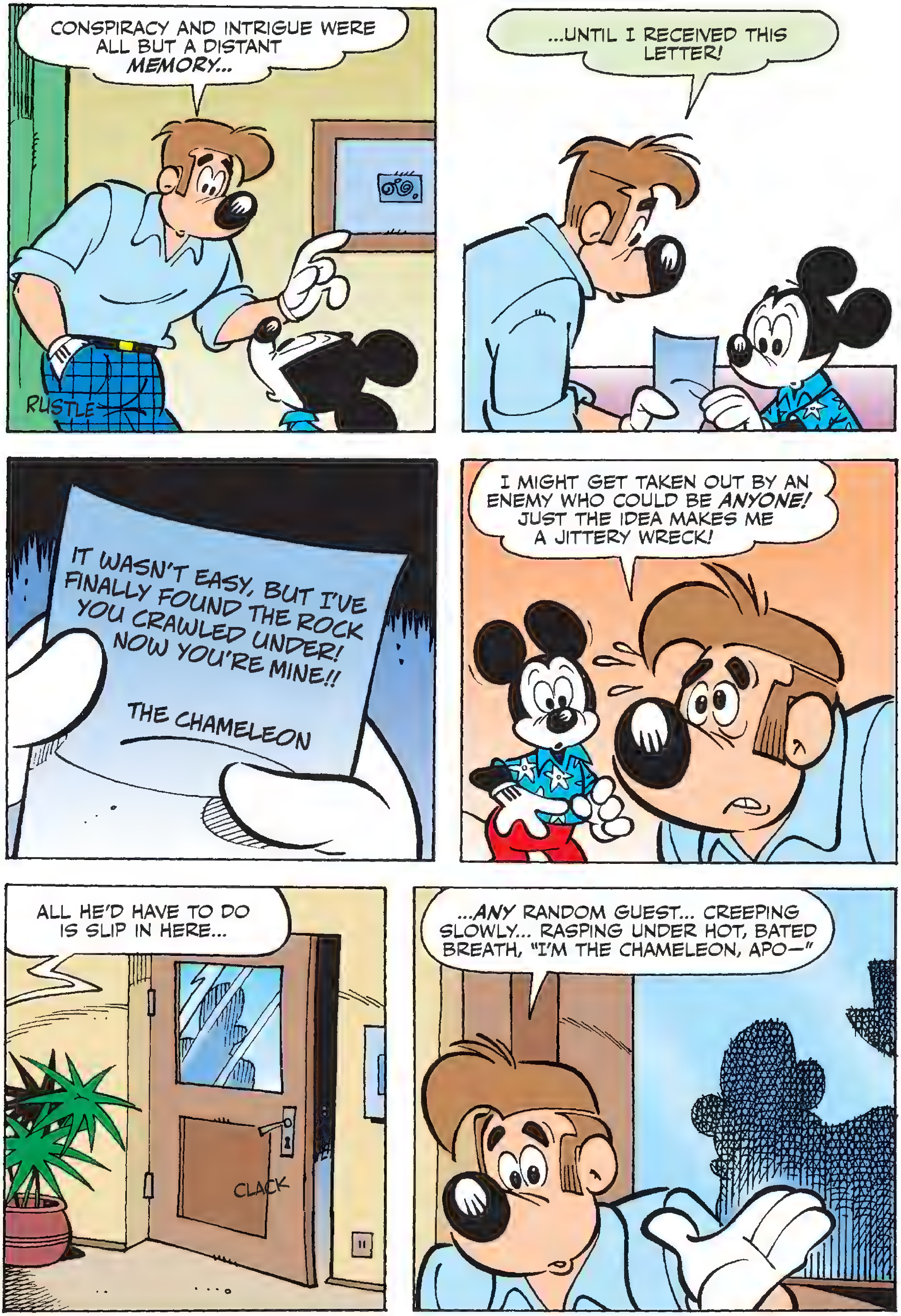

SOLEDAD RESORT! ON A SMALL BUT ELEGANT CARIBBEAN ISLE, WE FIND OUR HERO TAKING A WORKING VACATION IN LUXURY'S LAP...
OH, I KNOW THAT PENDANT! IT'S LOOKED UPON FONDLY IN MY FAMILY!
WELL, TH' MOUSETON MUSEUM'S WILLING TO PAY YA HANDSOMELY FOR IT, MS. ANTILLES!

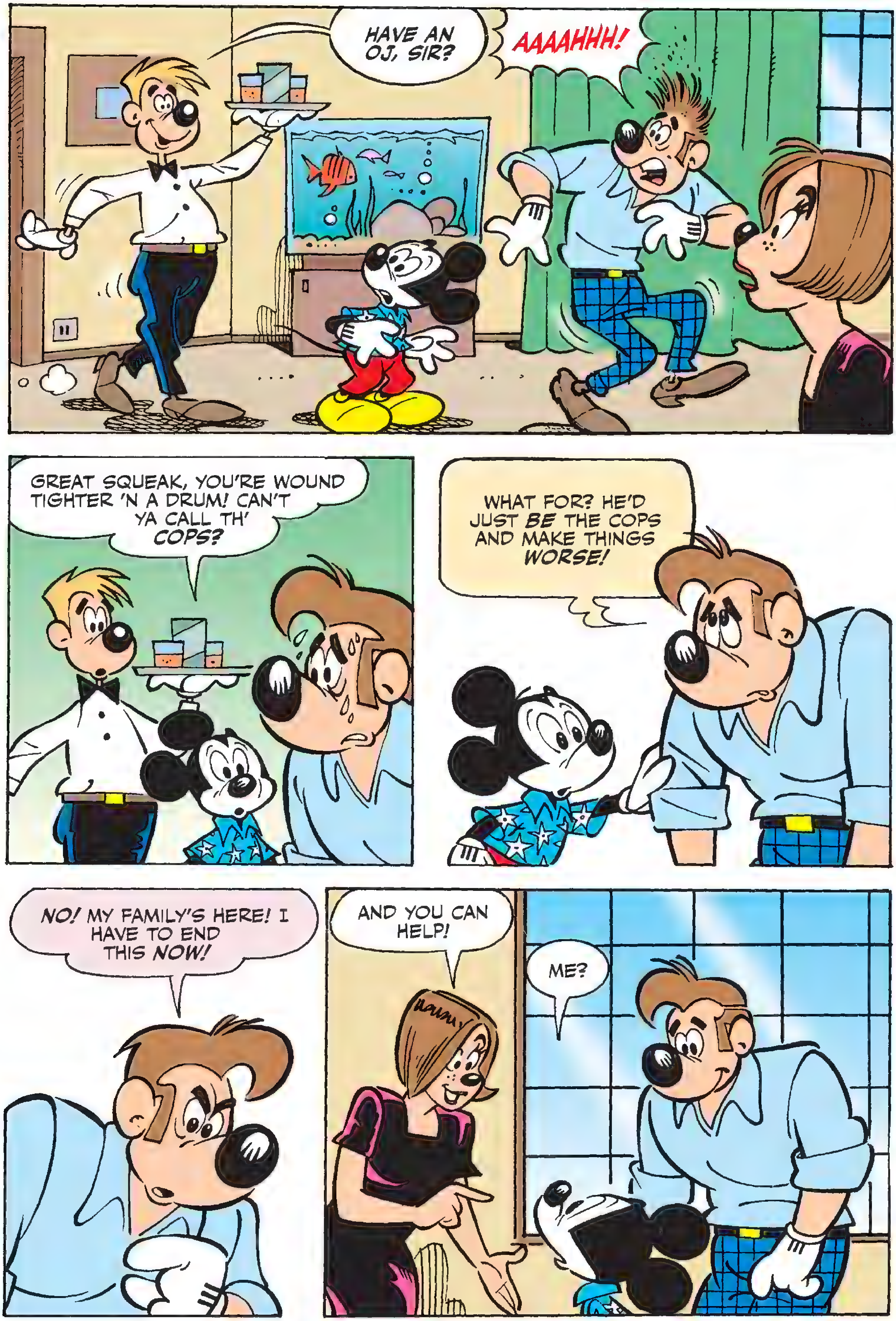

CALL ME *ANGEL*, MR. MOUSE. AND DON'T WORRY... MY FAMILY'S HOTEL DOES WELL! I'M IN NO NEED OF YOUR MONEY!
THANK GOODNESS! IF EVEN *ONE* PENDANT IS MISSIN' FROM IT, THEN OUR ZODIAC STONE IS WORTHLESS—

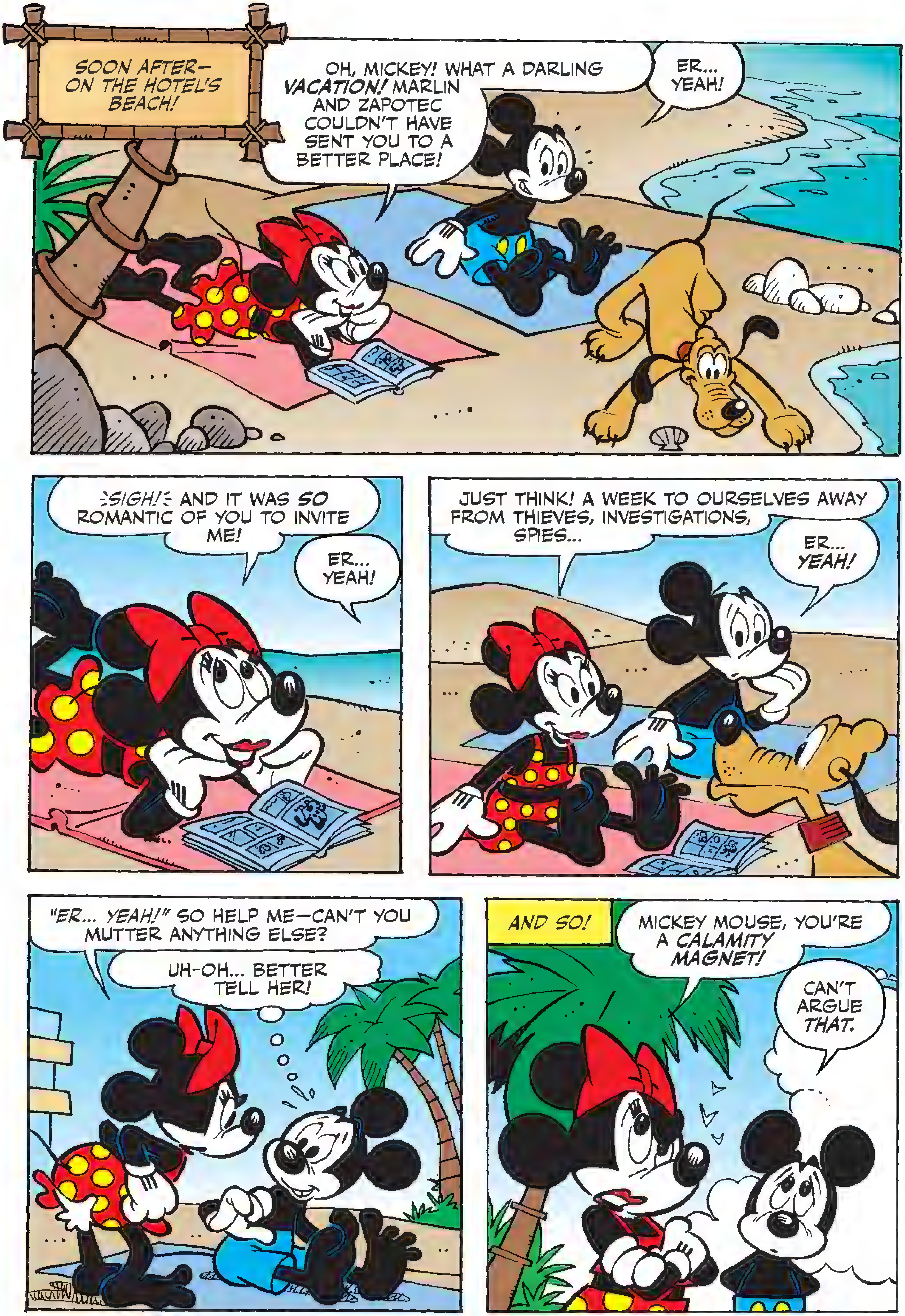

HOWEVER, I'LL ONLY LEND THE PENDANT ON ONE CONDITION... YOU'LL NEED TO ASSIST MY BROTHER!
SURE!
SPLENDID! COME IN, APOLLO!
HIYA, PAL!
I HOPE WE CAN BE PALS, MR. MOUSE. I'VE BEEN IMPATIENTLY AWAITING YOUR ARRIVAL!
WHEN PROF. ZAPOTEC DESCRIBED YOU, HE SAID YOU WERE SMART, TRUSTWORTHY...
...AND SOMETHING OF AN AMATEUR DETECTIVE!
HEH! I DO DABBLE!
THEN YOU'RE JUST THE PERSON WE'LL NEED TO HELP MY BROTHER EXPOSE—THE CHAMELEON!
?

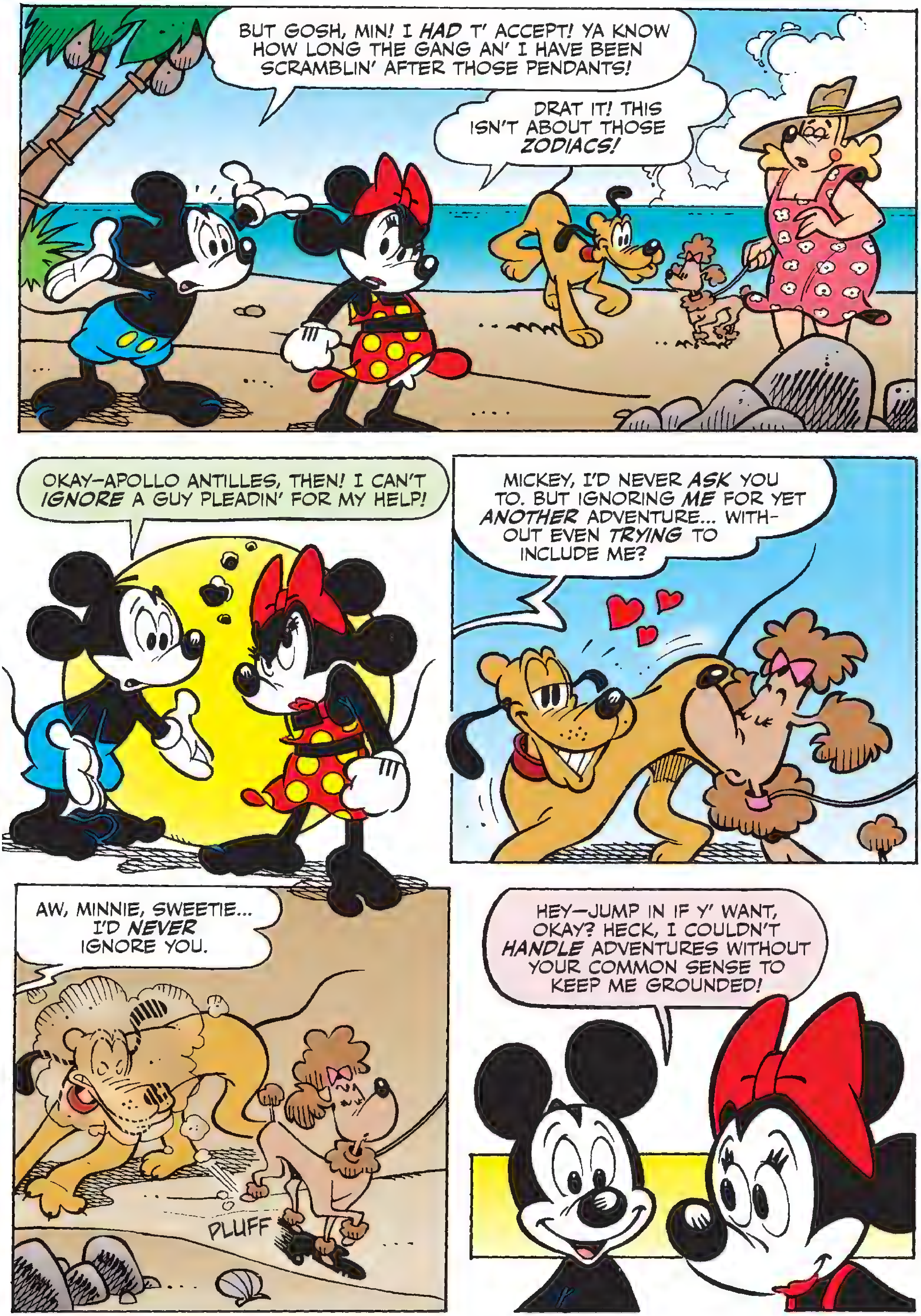

HUH?... TH' CA-WHO-LEON?
I'LL EXPLAIN.
MANY YEARS AGO, I WORKED FOR MY GOVERNMENT AS A SECRET AGENT...
"...INFILTRATING THE ENEMY WAR MACHINE—REAL CLANDESTINE STUFF!"
FLAP FLAP
UH-OH... "DOUBLE-A" GOT AWAY AGAIN!
"I RACKED UP MANY HONORS AND AWARDS..."
CONGRATULATIONS, AGENT DOUBLE-A! THE MICROFILM YOU SUCCESSFULLY RETRIEVED WILL BE CRUCIAL TOWARDS WORLD PEACE!

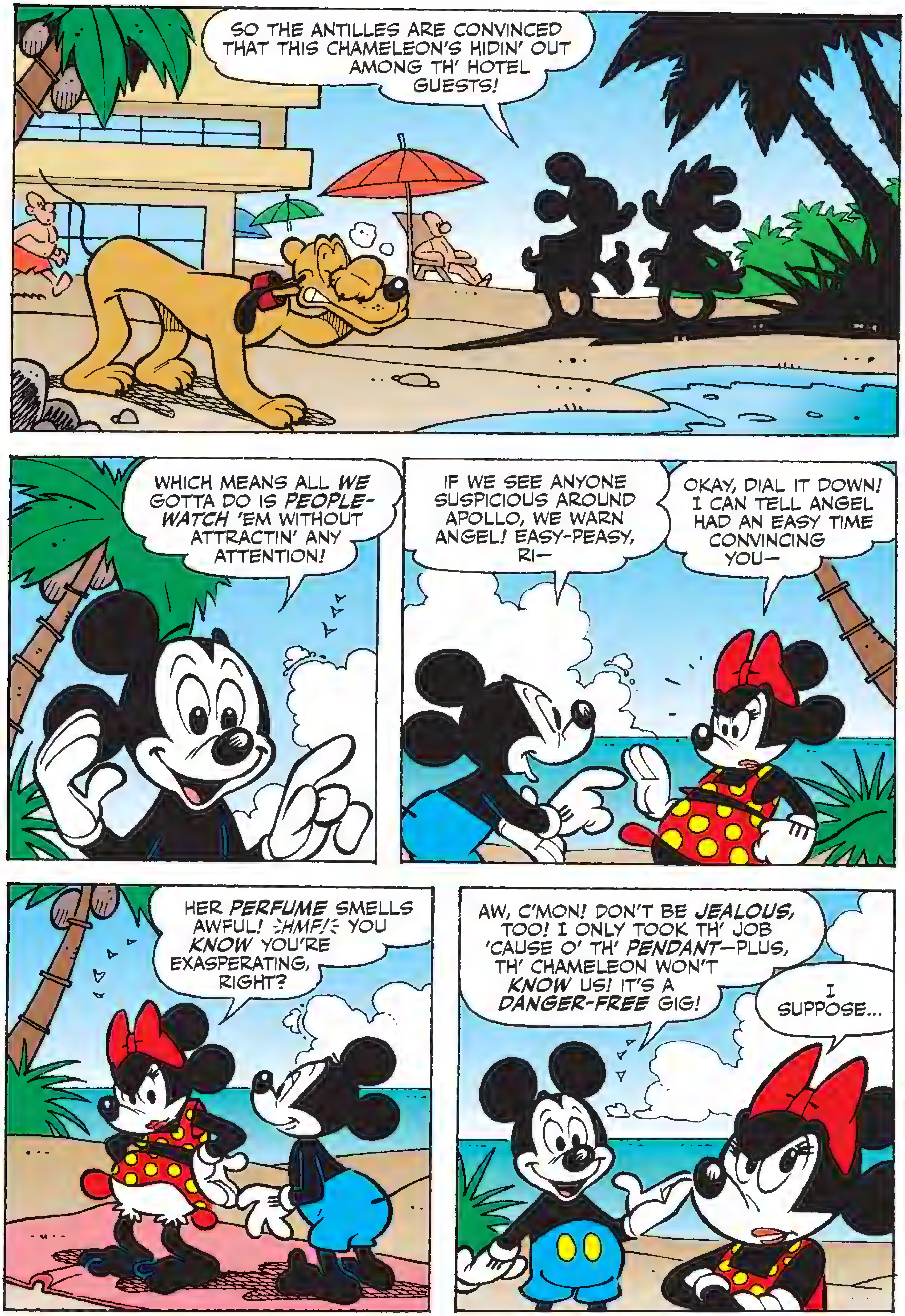

"...AS WELL AS COUNTLESS **ENEMIES** AMONG SPIES ON THE OTHER SIDE!"
REMOVE DOUBLE-A'S BATTERIES!
AMONG THEM, THERE'S **ONE** WHOSE FACE I NEVER KNEW! JUST HIS **NICKNAME**—AND HE WAS MY MOST **DANGEROUS** FOE...
TH' **CHAMELEON!**
RIGHT! THEY CALL HIM THAT BECAUSE OF HIS **NEAR-FLAWLESS** ABILITY TO DISGUISE HIMSELF!
ANYHOW—MY BRO GOT **WEARY** OF THE SNEAKY SPY LIFE. SO HE RETIRED...
...AND CAME TO LIVE WITH ME, HELPING RUN OUR FAMILY'S HOTEL!

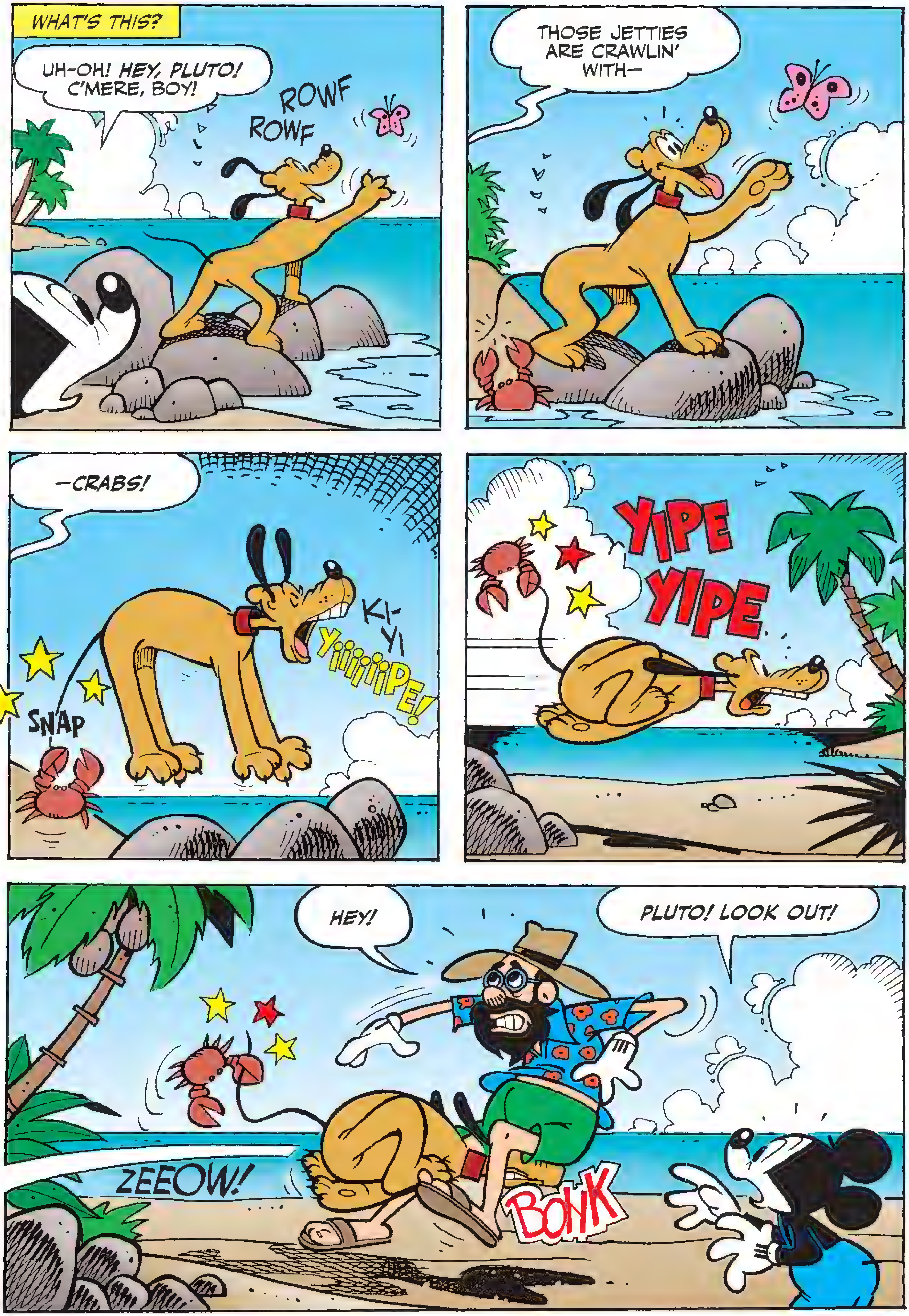

CONSPIRACY AND INTRIGUE WERE ALL BUT A DISTANT *MEMORY...*
RUSTLE
...UNTIL I RECEIVED THIS LETTER!
IT WASN'T EASY, BUT I'VE FINALLY FOUND THE ROCK YOU CRAWLED UNDER! NOW YOU'RE MINE!!
THE CHAMELEON
I MIGHT GET TAKEN OUT BY AN ENEMY WHO COULD BE *ANYONE!* JUST THE IDEA MAKES ME A JITTERY WRECK!
ALL HE'D HAVE TO DO IS SLIP IN HERE...
CLACK
...*ANY* RANDOM GUEST... CREEPING SLOWLY... RASPING UNDER HOT, BATED BREATH, "I'M THE CHAMELEON, APO—"

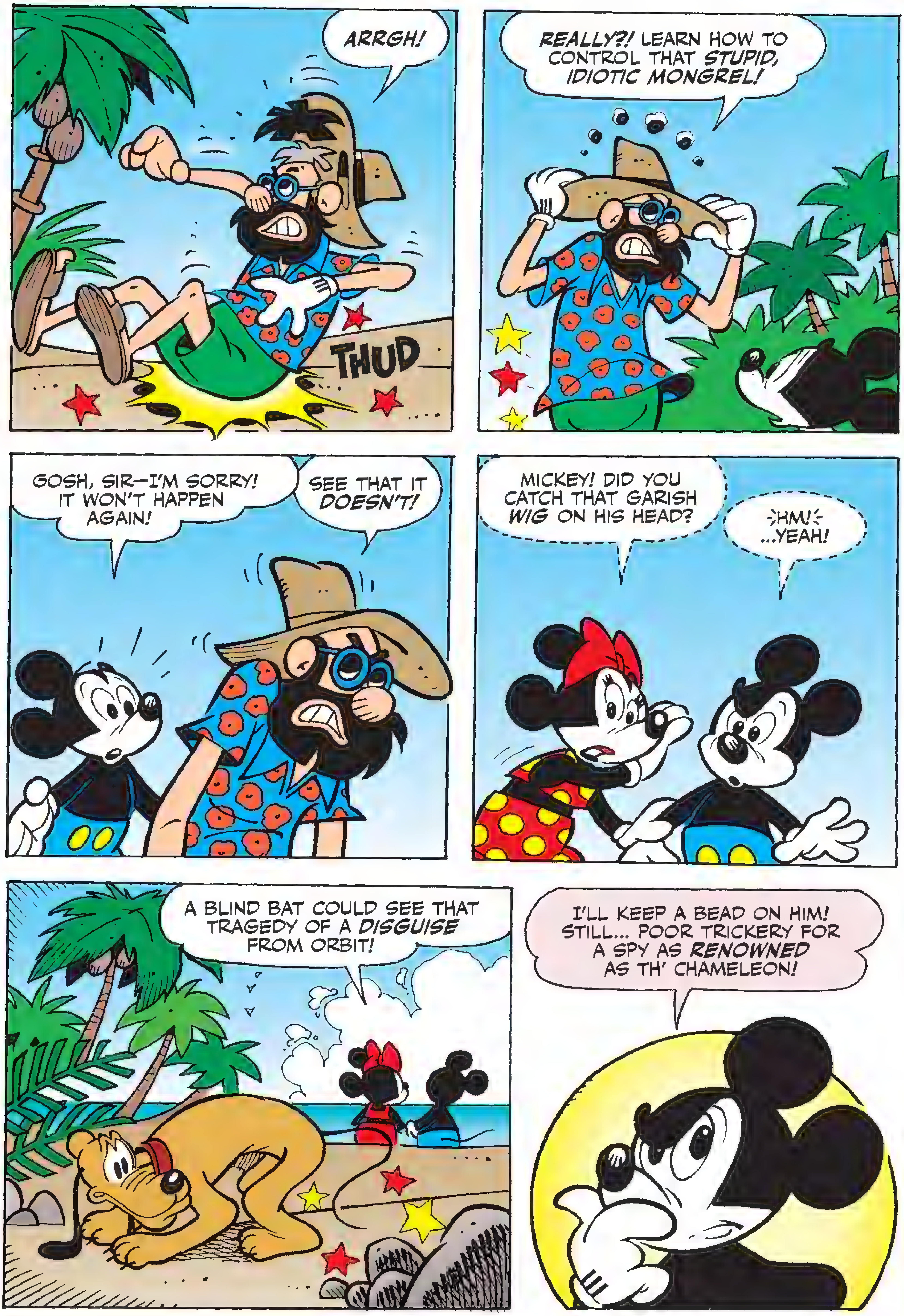

HAVE AN OJ, SIR?
AAAAHHH!
GREAT SQUEAK, YOU'RE WOUND TIGHTER 'N A DRUM! CAN'T YA CALL TH' COPS?
WHAT FOR? HE'D JUST BE THE COPS AND MAKE THINGS WORSE!
NO! MY FAMILY'S HERE! I HAVE TO END THIS NOW!
AND YOU CAN HELP!
ME?

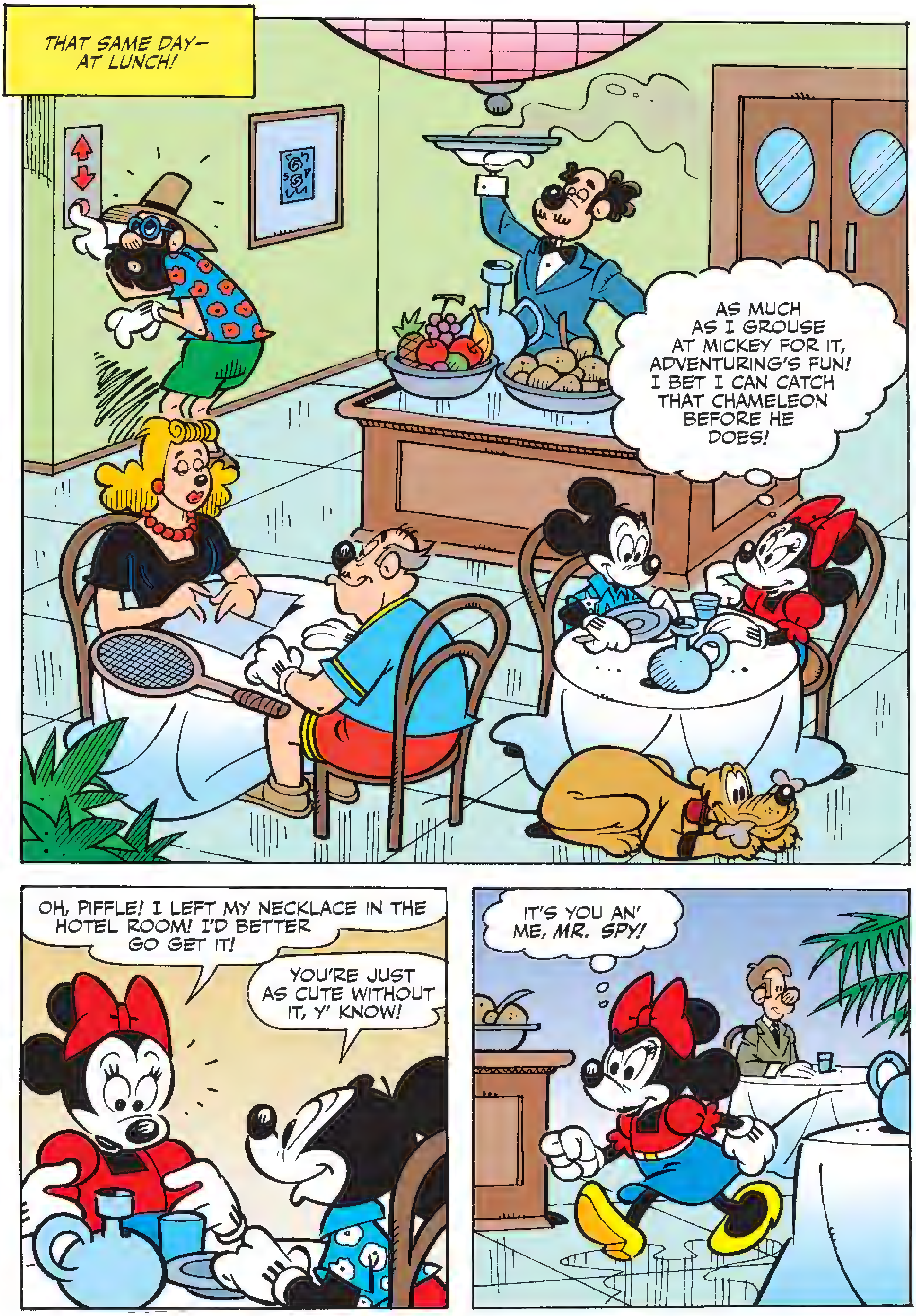

SOON AFTER—ON THE HOTEL'S BEACH!
OH, MICKEY! WHAT A DARLING *VACATION!* MARLIN AND ZAPOTEC COULDN'T HAVE SENT YOU TO A BETTER PLACE!
ER... YEAH!
⁝SIGH!⁝ AND IT WAS *SO* ROMANTIC OF YOU TO INVITE ME!
ER... YEAH!
JUST THINK! A WEEK TO OURSELVES AWAY FROM THIEVES, INVESTIGATIONS, SPIES...
ER... *YEAH!*
"*ER... YEAH!*" SO HELP ME—CAN'T YOU MUTTER ANYTHING ELSE?
UH-OH... BETTER TELL HER!
AND SO!
MICKEY MOUSE, YOU'RE A *CALAMITY MAGNET!*
CAN'T ARGUE THAT.

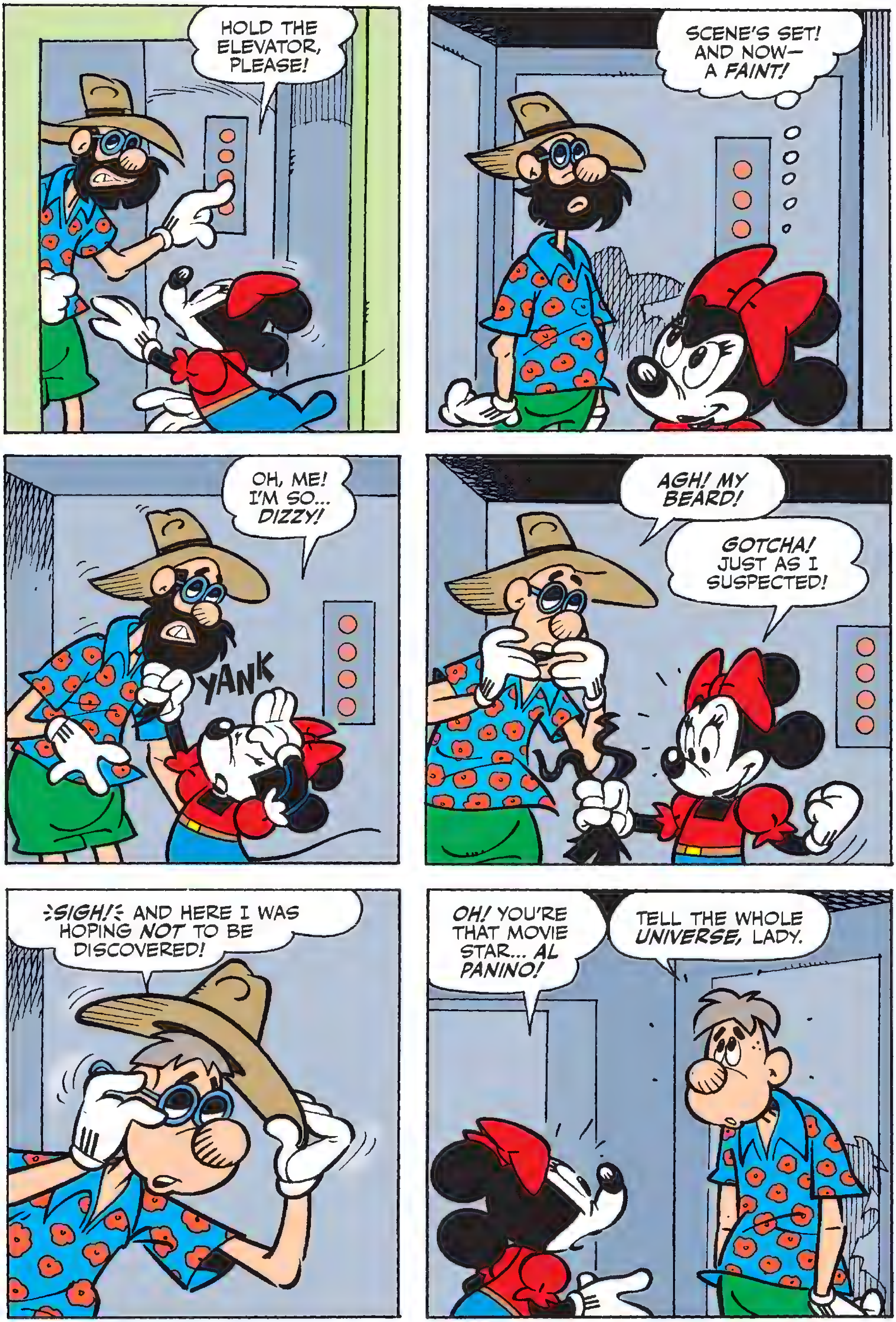

BUT GOSH, MIN! I *HAD* T' ACCEPT! YA KNOW HOW LONG THE GANG AN' I HAVE BEEN SCRAMBLIN' AFTER THOSE PENDANTS!
DRAT IT! THIS ISN'T ABOUT THOSE *ZODIACS!*
OKAY—APOLLO ANTILLES, THEN! I CAN'T *IGNORE* A GUY PLEADIN' FOR MY HELP!
MICKEY, I'D NEVER *ASK* YOU TO. BUT IGNORING *ME* FOR YET *ANOTHER* ADVENTURE... WITHOUT EVEN *TRYING* TO INCLUDE ME?
AW, MINNIE, SWEETIE... I'D *NEVER* IGNORE YOU.
PLUFF
HEY—JUMP IN IF Y' WANT, OKAY? HECK, I COULDN'T *HANDLE* ADVENTURES WITHOUT YOUR COMMON SENSE TO KEEP ME GROUNDED!

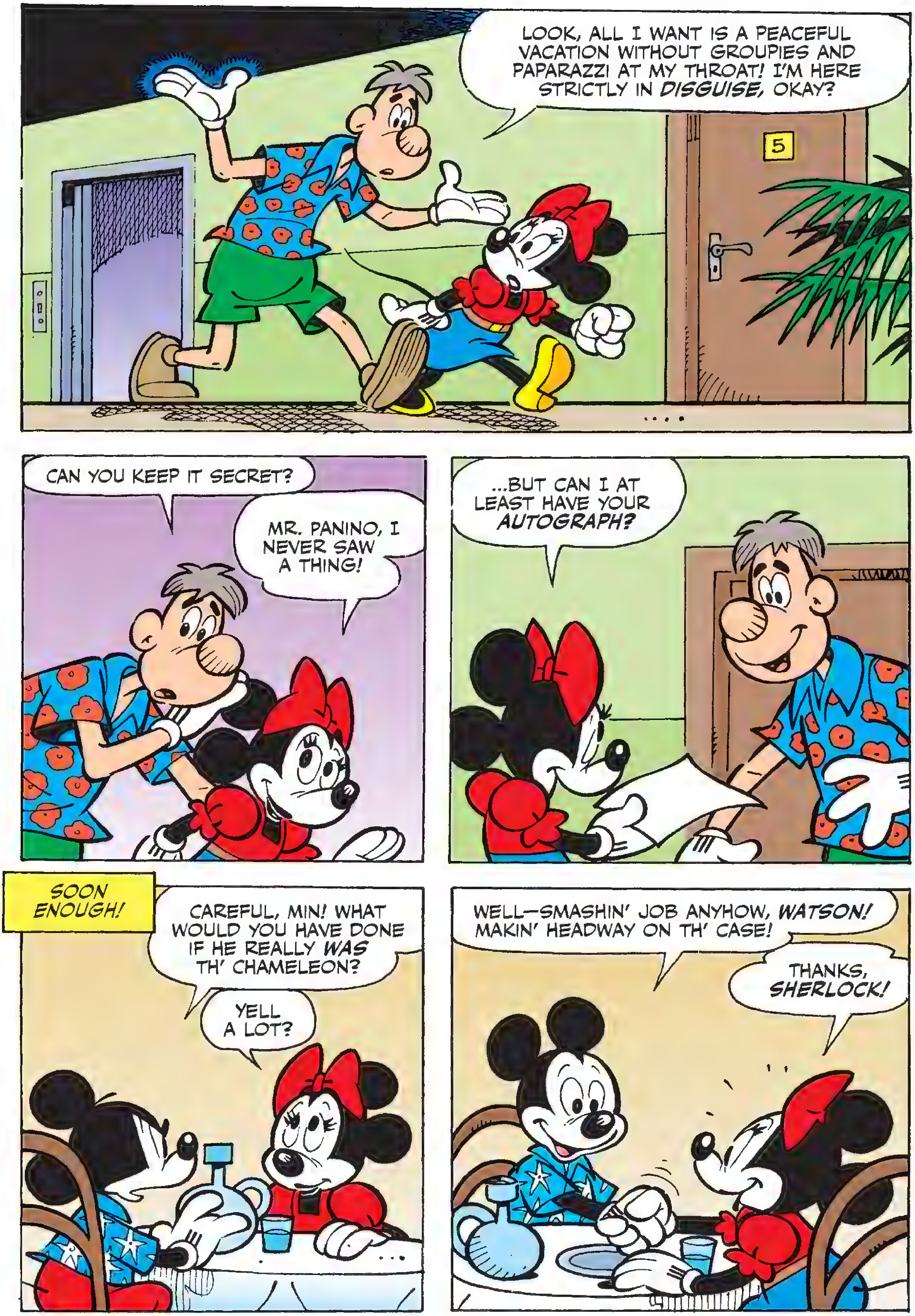

SO THE ANTILLES ARE CONVINCED THAT THIS CHAMELEON'S HIDIN' OUT AMONG TH' HOTEL GUESTS!
WHICH MEANS ALL *WE* GOTTA DO IS *PEOPLE-WATCH* 'EM WITHOUT ATTRACTIN' ANY ATTENTION!
IF WE SEE ANYONE SUSPICIOUS AROUND APOLLO, WE WARN ANGEL! EASY-PEASY, RI—
OKAY, DIAL IT DOWN! I CAN TELL ANGEL HAD AN EASY TIME CONVINCING YOU—
HER *PERFUME* SMELLS AWFUL! *HMF!* YOU *KNOW* YOU'RE EXASPERATING, RIGHT?
AW, C'MON! DON'T BE *JEALOUS*, TOO! I ONLY TOOK TH' JOB 'CAUSE O' TH' *PENDANT*—PLUS, TH' CHAMELEON WON'T *KNOW* US! IT'S A *DANGER-FREE* GIG!
I SUPPOSE...

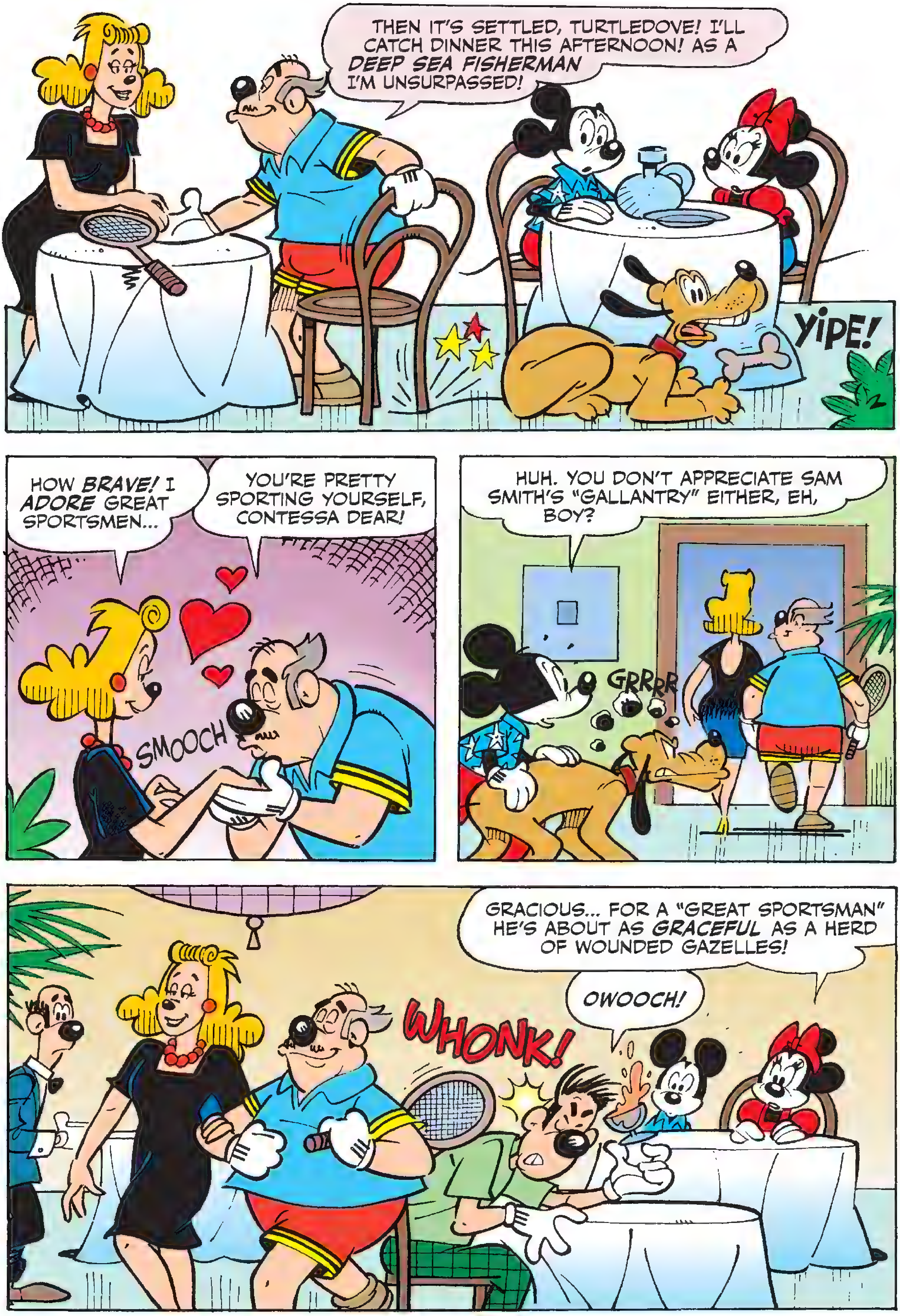

WHAT'S THIS?
UH-OH! HEY, PLUTO! C'MERE, BOY!
ROWF ROWF
THOSE JETTIES ARE CRAWLIN' WITH—
—CRABS!
SNAP
KI-YI
YIIIIIIPE!
YIPE YIPE
HEY!
PLUTO! LOOK OUT!
ZEEOW!
BONK

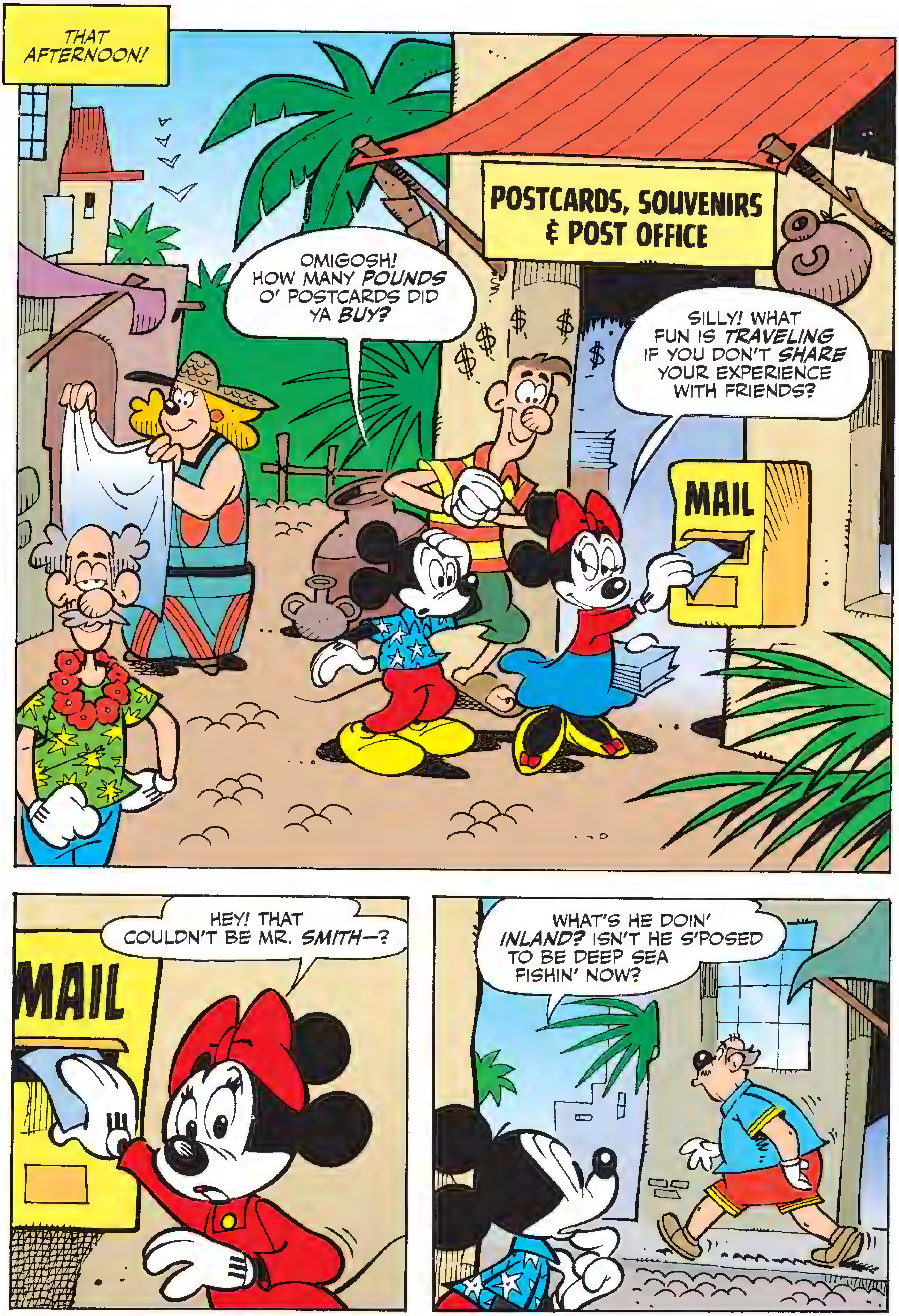

ARRGH!
THUD
REALLY?! LEARN HOW TO CONTROL THAT *STUPID, IDIOTIC MONGREL!*
GOSH, SIR—I'M SORRY! IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN!
SEE THAT IT *DOESN'T!*
MICKEY! DID YOU CATCH THAT GARISH *WIG* ON HIS HEAD?
HM! ...YEAH!
A BLIND BAT COULD SEE THAT TRAGEDY OF A *DISGUISE* FROM ORBIT!
I'LL KEEP A BEAD ON HIM! STILL... POOR TRICKERY FOR A SPY AS *RENOWNED* AS TH' CHAMELEON!

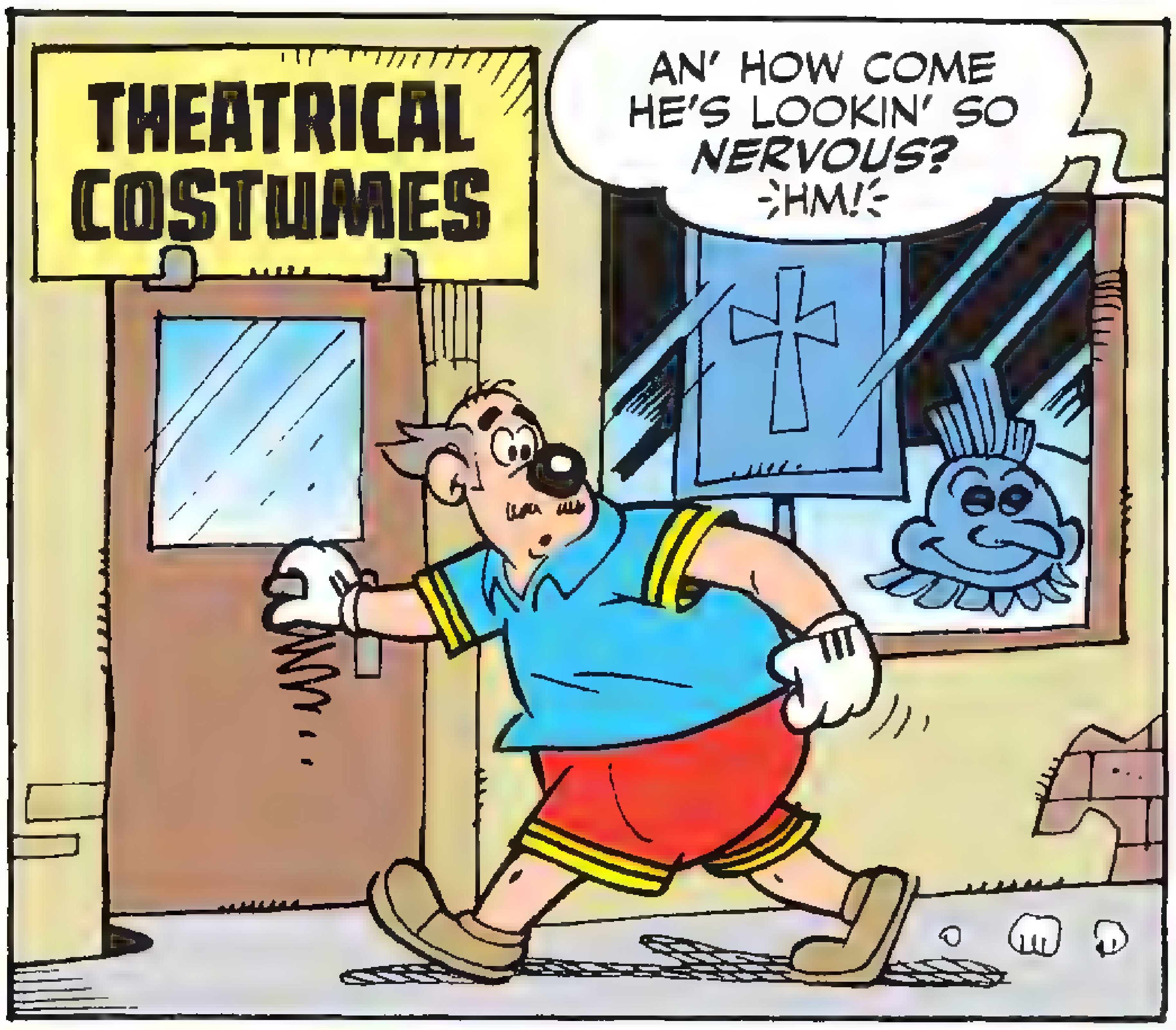

THAT SAME DAY— AT LUNCH!
AS MUCH AS I GROUSE AT MICKEY FOR IT, ADVENTURING'S FUN! I BET I CAN CATCH THAT CHAMELEON BEFORE HE DOES!
OH, PIFFLE! I LEFT MY NECKLACE IN THE HOTEL ROOM! I'D BETTER GO GET IT!
YOU'RE JUST AS CUTE WITHOUT IT, Y' KNOW!
IT'S YOU AN' ME, *MR. SPY!*

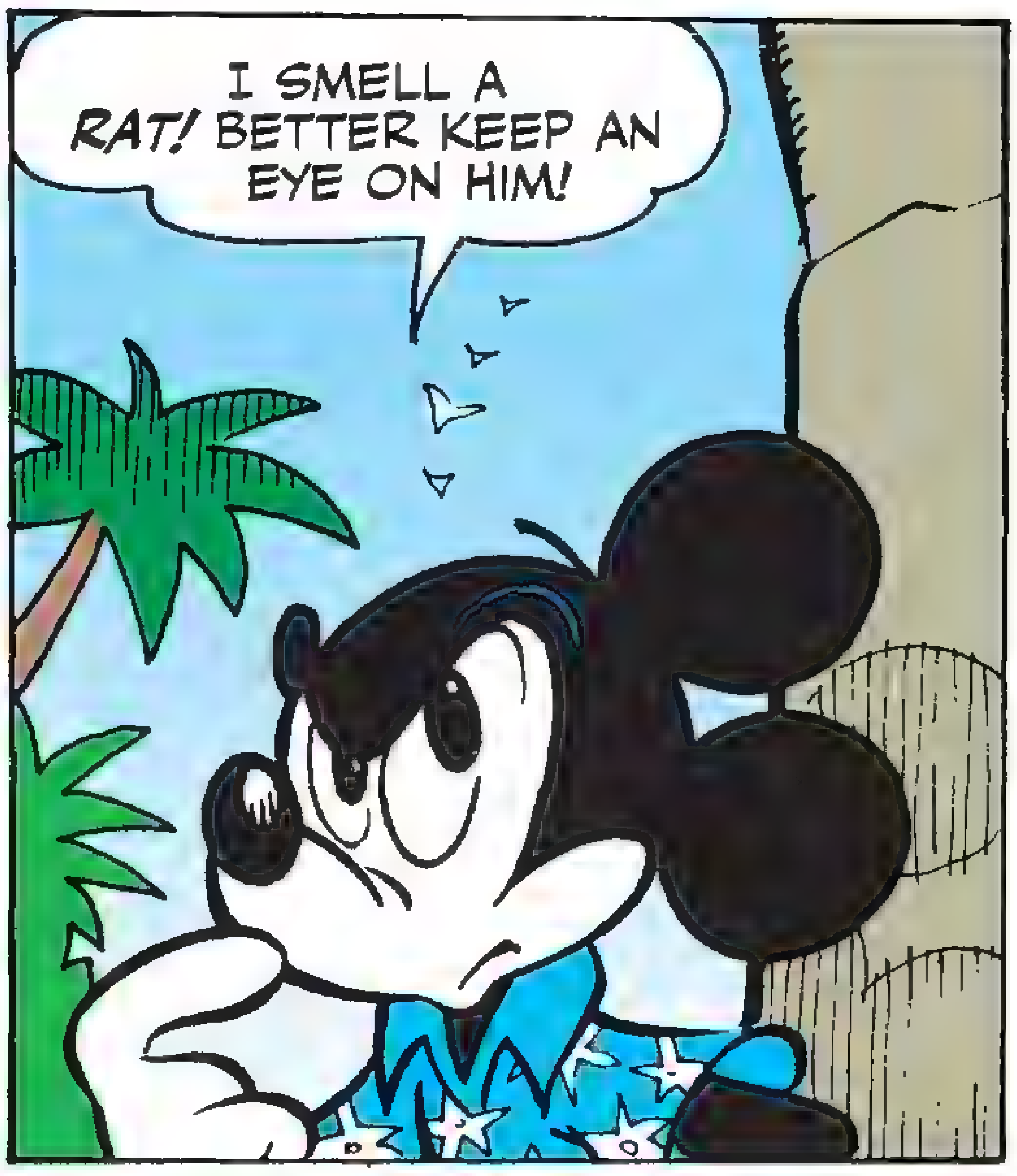

HOLD THE ELEVATOR, PLEASE!
SCENE'S SET! AND NOW— A *FAINT!*
OH, ME! I'M SO... *DIZZY!*
YANK
AGH! MY BEARD!
GOTCHA! JUST AS I SUSPECTED!
SIGH! AND HERE I WAS HOPING *NOT* TO BE DISCOVERED!
OH! YOU'RE THAT MOVIE STAR... *AL PANINO!*
TELL THE WHOLE *UNIVERSE,* LADY.

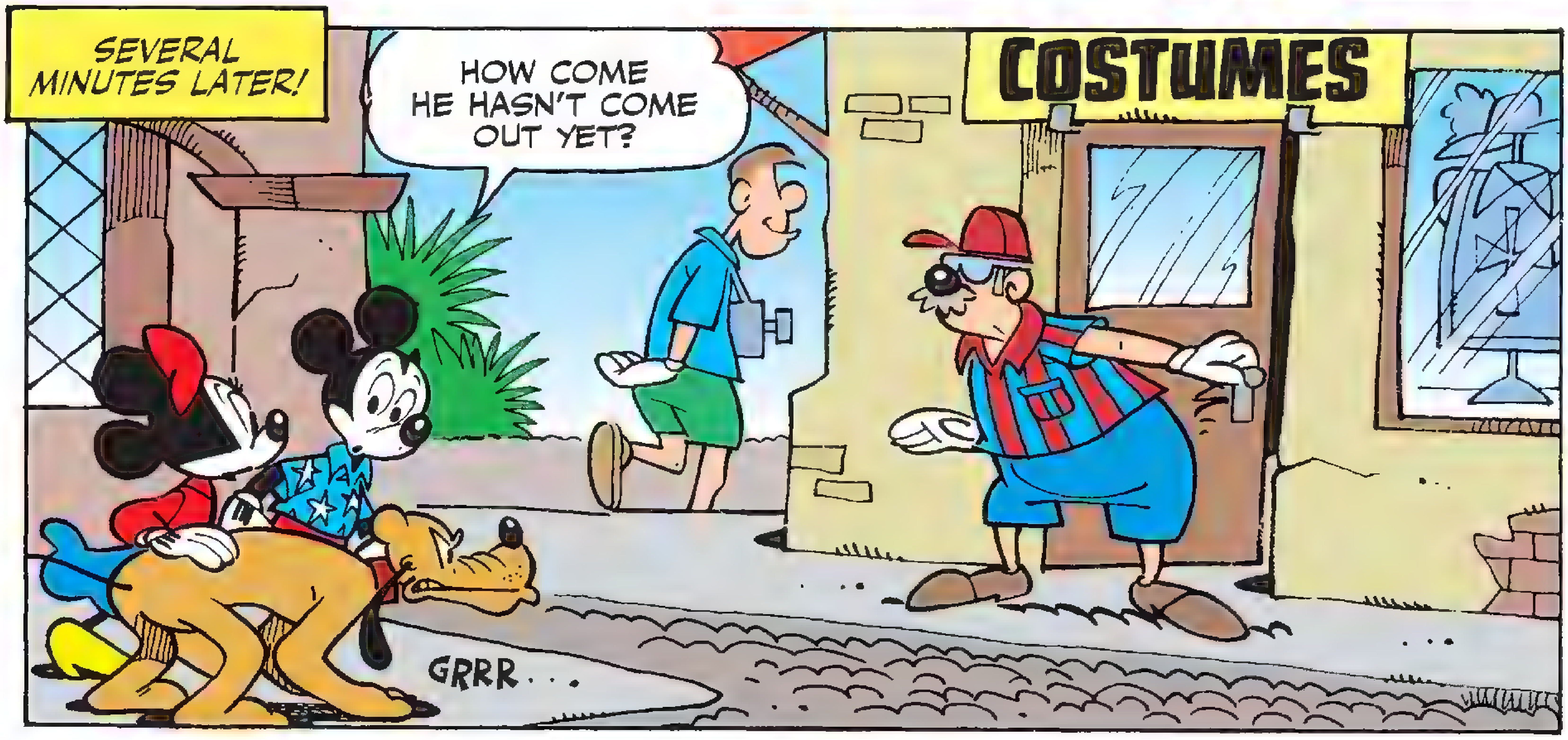

LOOK, ALL I WANT IS A PEACEFUL VACATION WITHOUT GROUPIES AND PAPARAZZI AT MY THROAT! I'M HERE STRICTLY IN *DISGUISE*, OKAY?
5
....
CAN YOU KEEP IT SECRET?
MR. PANINO, I NEVER SAW A THING!
...BUT CAN I AT LEAST HAVE YOUR *AUTOGRAPH?*
SOON ENOUGH!
CAREFUL, MIN! WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE IF HE REALLY *WAS* TH' CHAMELEON?
YELL A LOT?
WELL—SMASHIN' JOB ANYHOW, *WATSON!* MAKIN' HEADWAY ON TH' CASE!
THANKS, *SHERLOCK!*

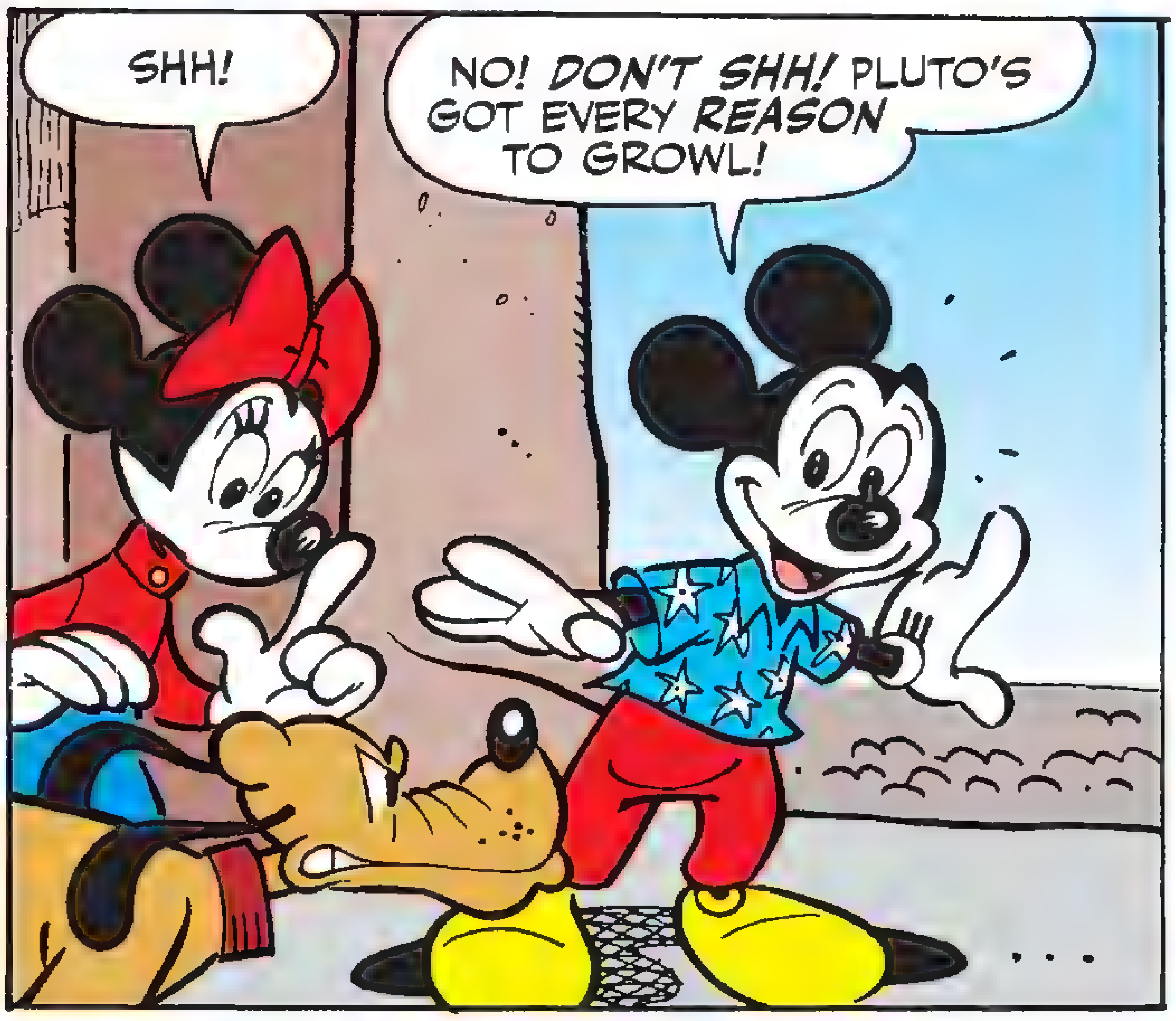

THEN IT'S SETTLED, TURTLEDOVE! I'LL CATCH DINNER THIS AFTERNOON! AS A *DEEP SEA FISHERMAN* I'M UNSURPASSED!
YIPE!
HOW *BRAVE!* I *ADORE* GREAT SPORTSMEN...
YOU'RE PRETTY SPORTING YOURSELF, CONTESSA DEAR!
SMOOCH
HUH. YOU DON'T APPRECIATE SAM SMITH'S "GALLANTRY" EITHER, EH, BOY?
GRRRR
GRACIOUS... FOR A "GREAT SPORTSMAN" HE'S ABOUT AS *GRACEFUL* AS A HERD OF WOUNDED GAZELLES!
OWOOCH!
WHONK!

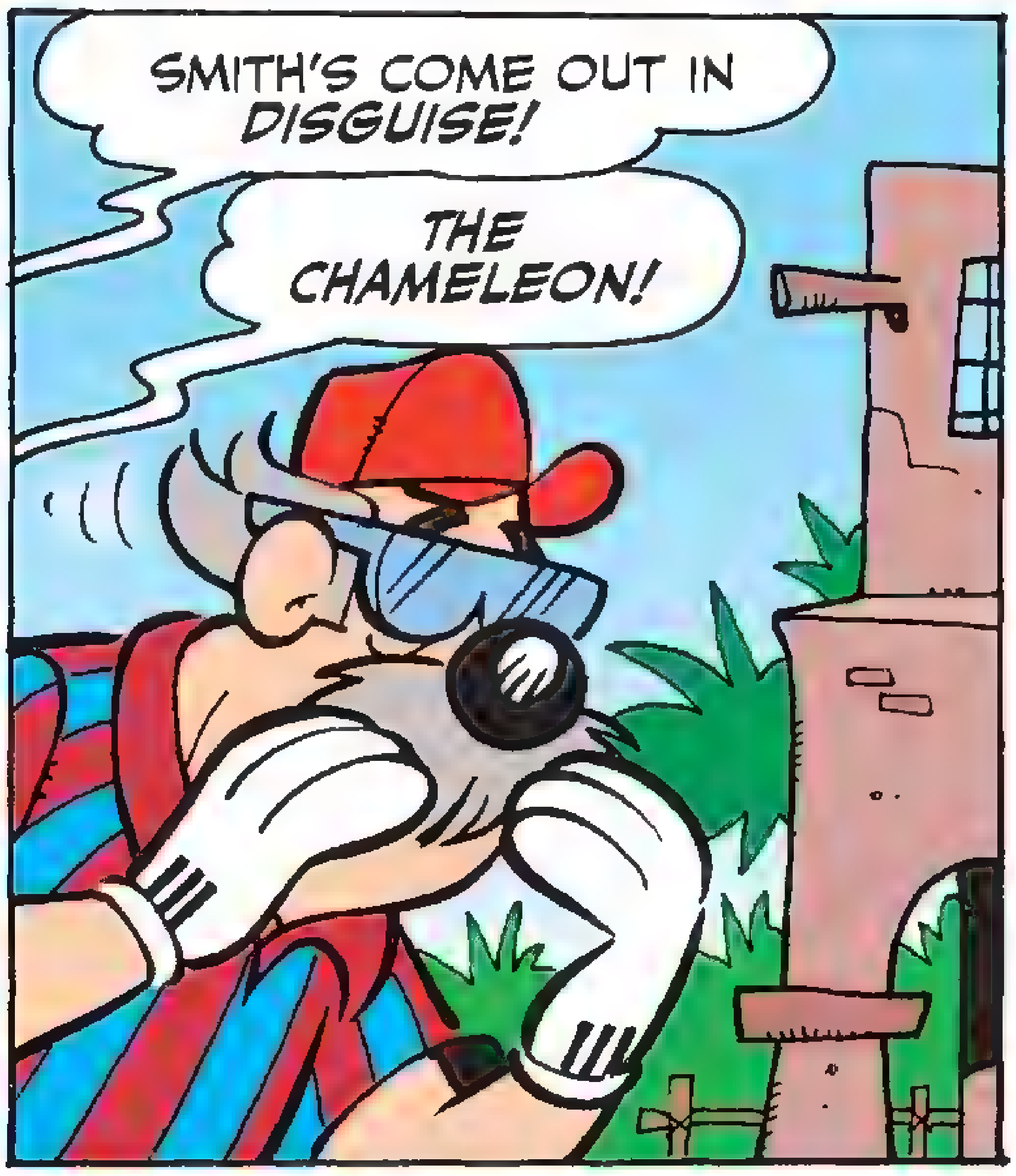

THAT AFTERNOON!
POSTCARDS, SOUVENIRS & POST OFFICE
OMIGOSH! HOW MANY *POUNDS* O' POSTCARDS DID YA *BUY?*
SILLY! WHAT FUN IS *TRAVELING* IF YOU DON'T *SHARE* YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH FRIENDS?
MAIL
HEY! THAT COULDN'T BE MR. *SMITH*—?
MAIL
WHAT'S HE DOIN' *INLAND?* ISN'T HE S'POSED TO BE DEEP SEA FISHIN' NOW?

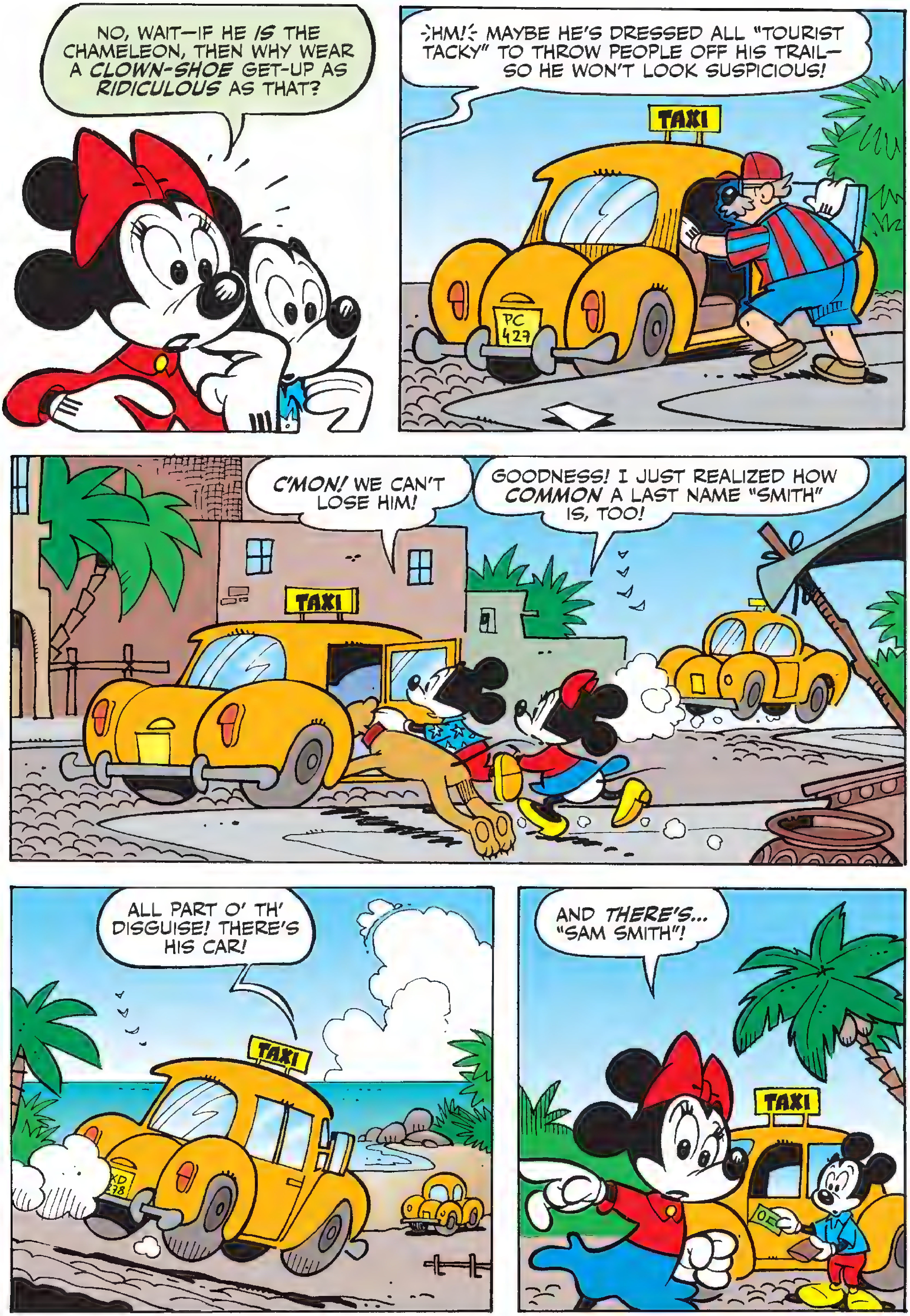

THEATRICAL COSTUMES
AN' HOW COME HE'S LOOKIN' SO *NERVOUS?* HM!

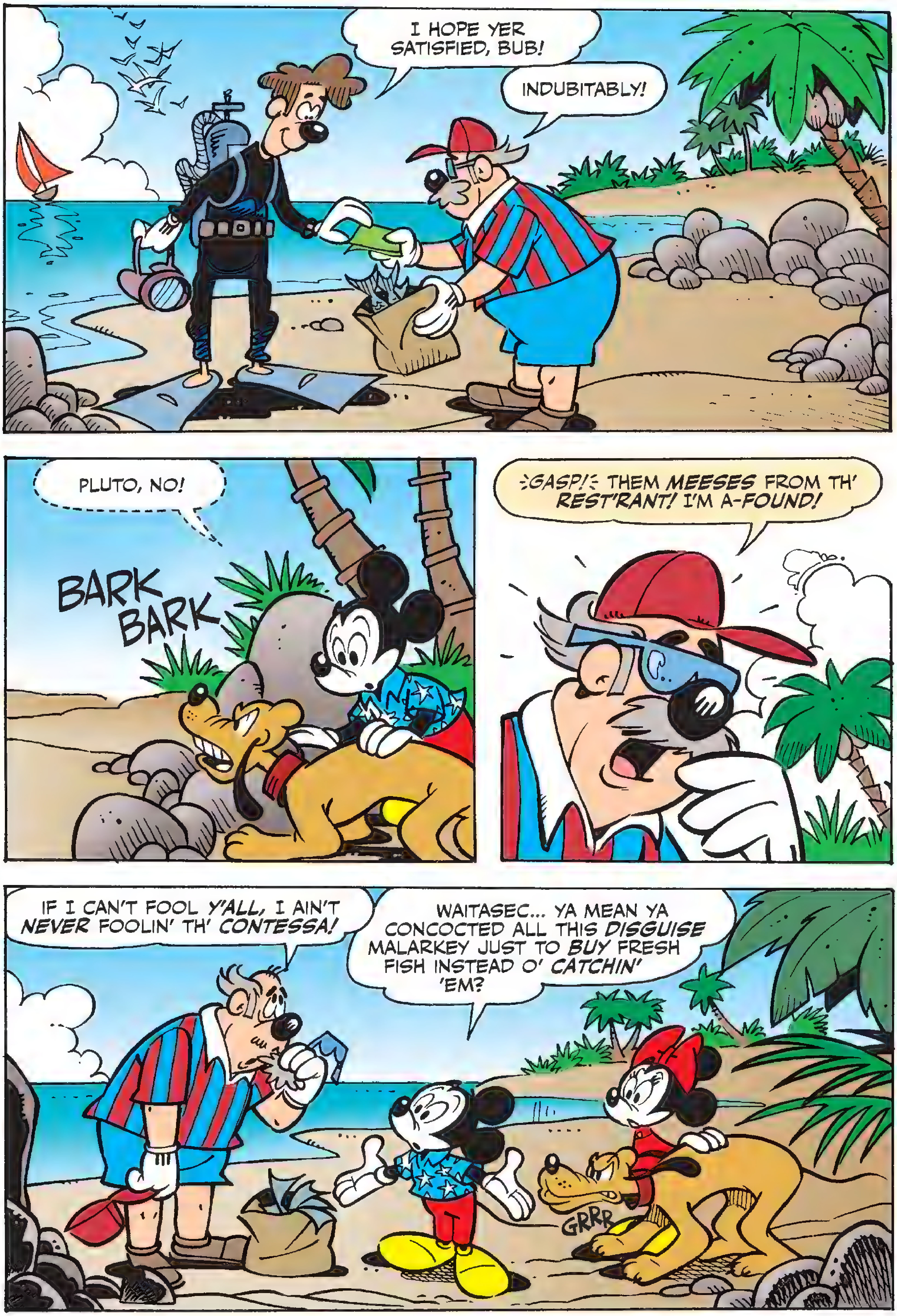

I SMELL A *RAT!* BETTER KEEP AN EYE ON HIM!

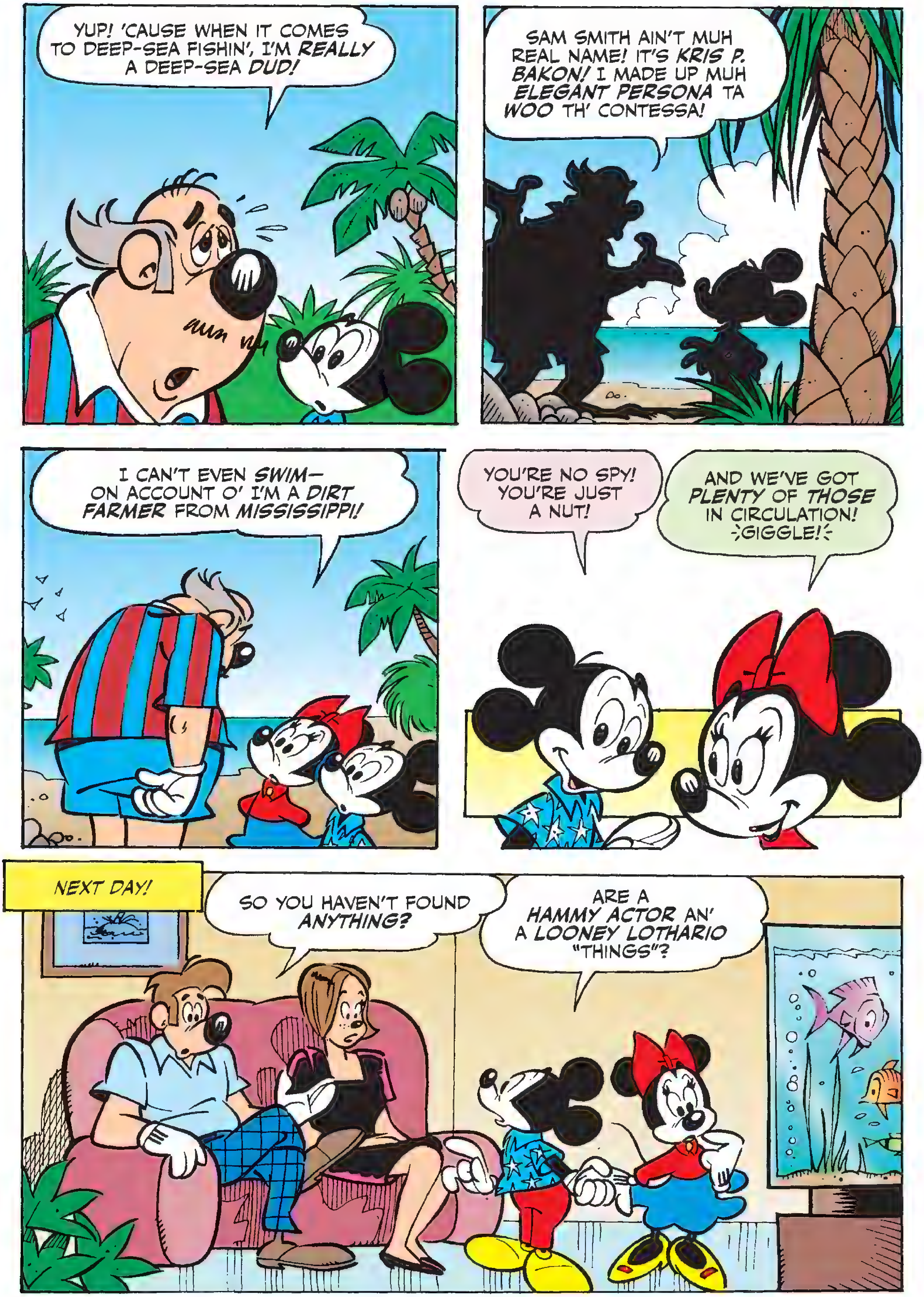

SEVERAL MINUTES LATER!
HOW COME HE HASN'T COME OUT YET?
COSTUMES
GRRR . . .

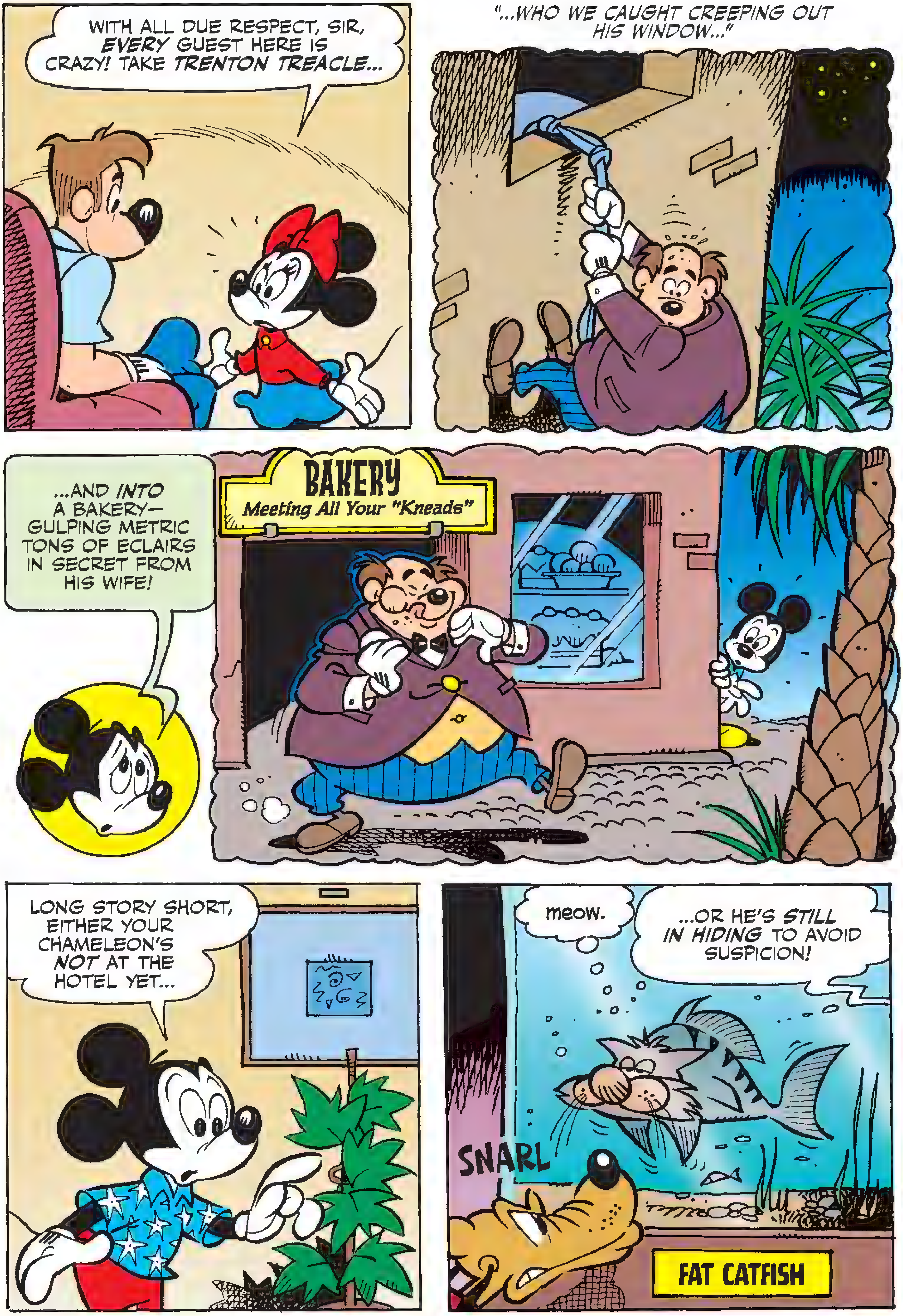

SHH!
NO! *DON'T SHH!* PLUTO'S GOT EVERY *REASON* TO GROWL!

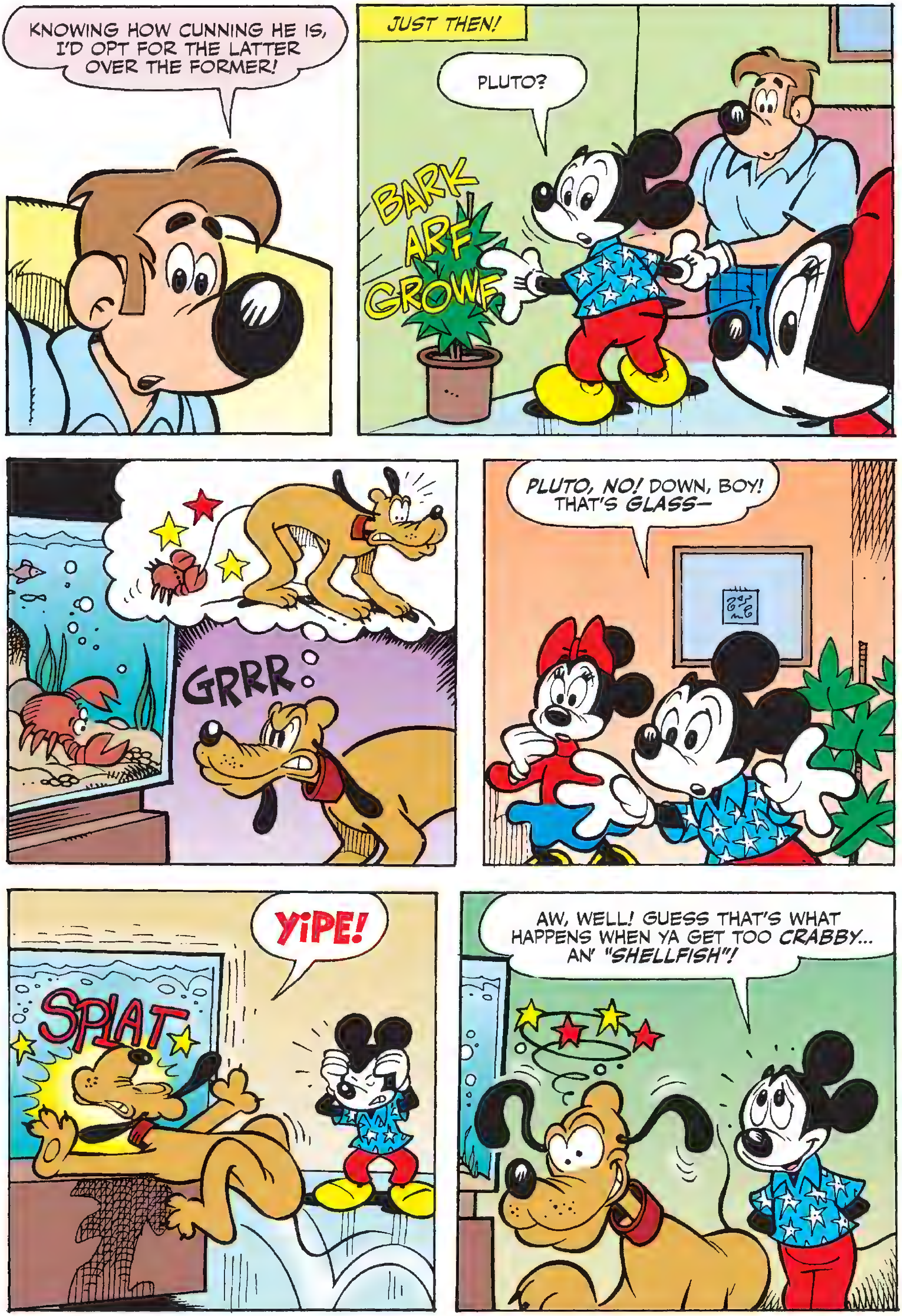

SMITH'S COME OUT IN *DISGUISE!*
THE CHAMELEON!

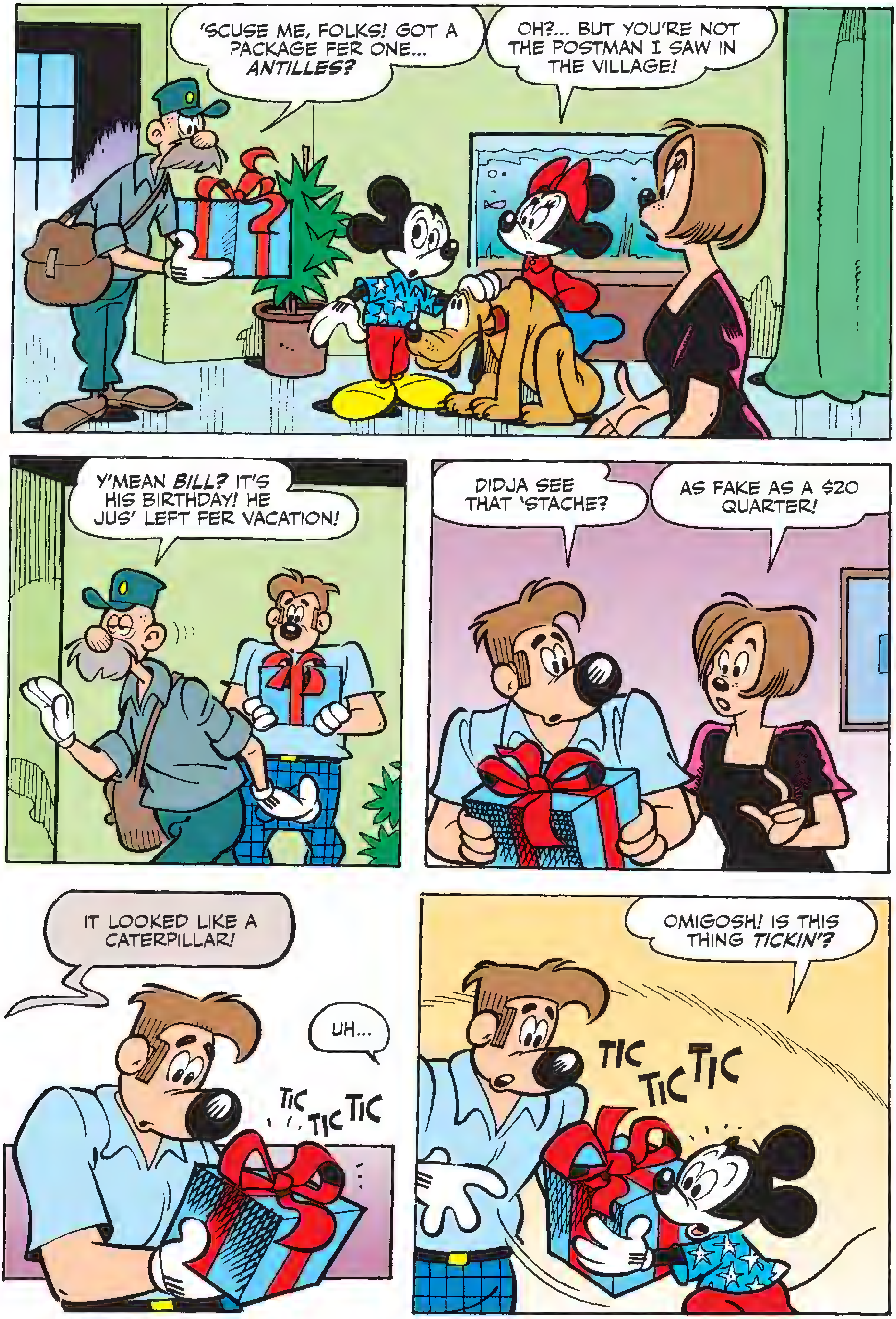

NO, WAIT—IF HE *IS* THE CHAMELEON, THEN WHY WEAR A *CLOWN-SHOE* GET-UP AS *RIDICULOUS* AS THAT?
HM! MAYBE HE'S DRESSED ALL "TOURIST TACKY" TO THROW PEOPLE OFF HIS TRAIL— SO HE WON'T LOOK SUSPICIOUS!
TAXI
PC 427
C'MON! WE CAN'T LOSE HIM!
GOODNESS! I JUST REALIZED HOW *COMMON* A LAST NAME "SMITH" IS, TOO!
TAXI
ALL PART O' TH' DISGUISE! THERE'S HIS CAR!
TAXI
AND *THERE'S*... "SAM SMITH"!
TAXI

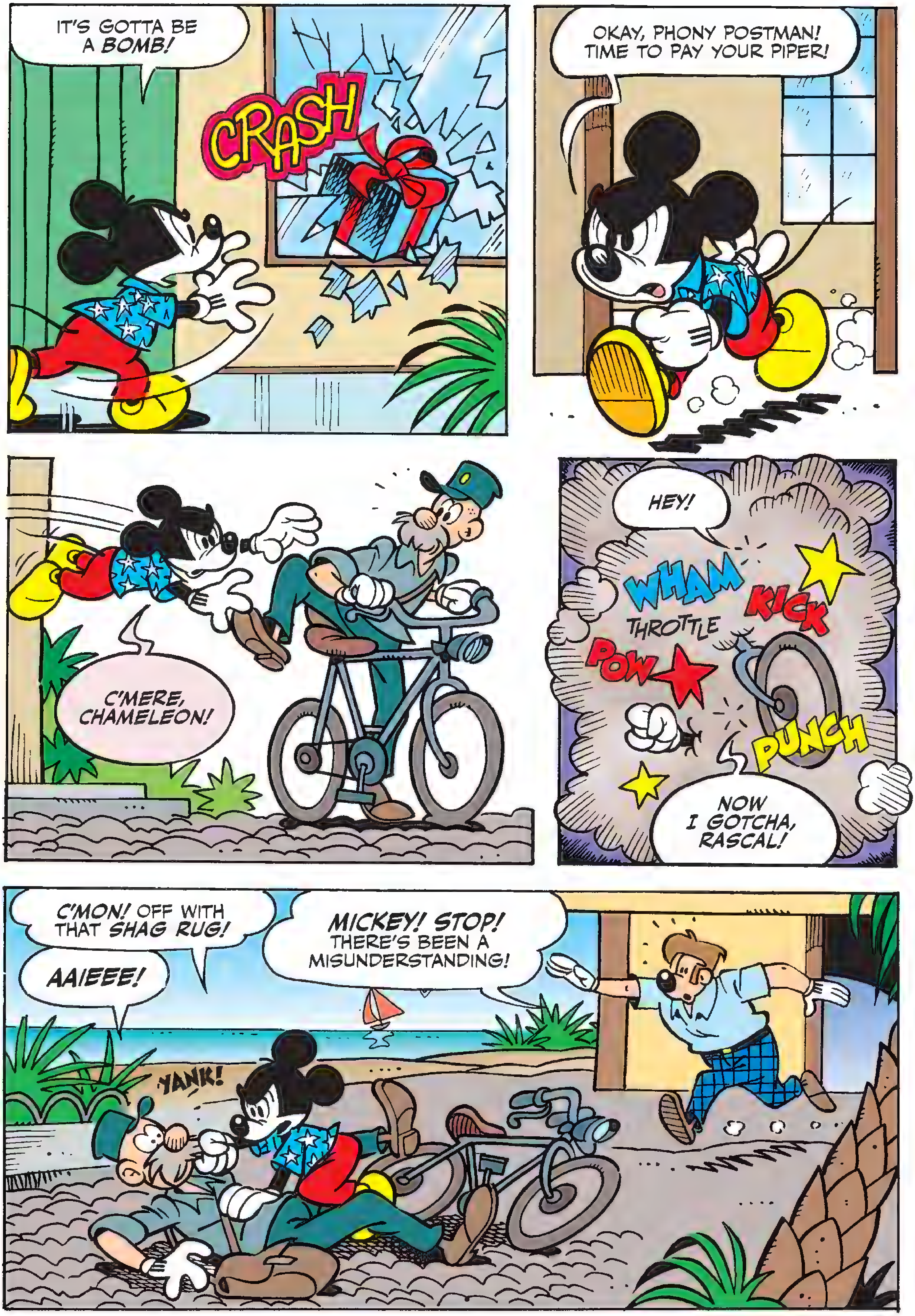

I HOPE YER SATISFIED, BUB!
INDUBITABLY!
PLUTO, NO!
BARK BARK
GASP! THEM MEESES FROM TH' REST'RANT! I'M A-FOUND!
IF I CAN'T FOOL Y'ALL, I AIN'T NEVER FOOLIN' TH' CONTESSA!
WAITASEC... YA MEAN YA CONCOCTED ALL THIS DISGUISE MALARKEY JUST TO BUY FRESH FISH INSTEAD O' CATCHIN' 'EM?
GRRR

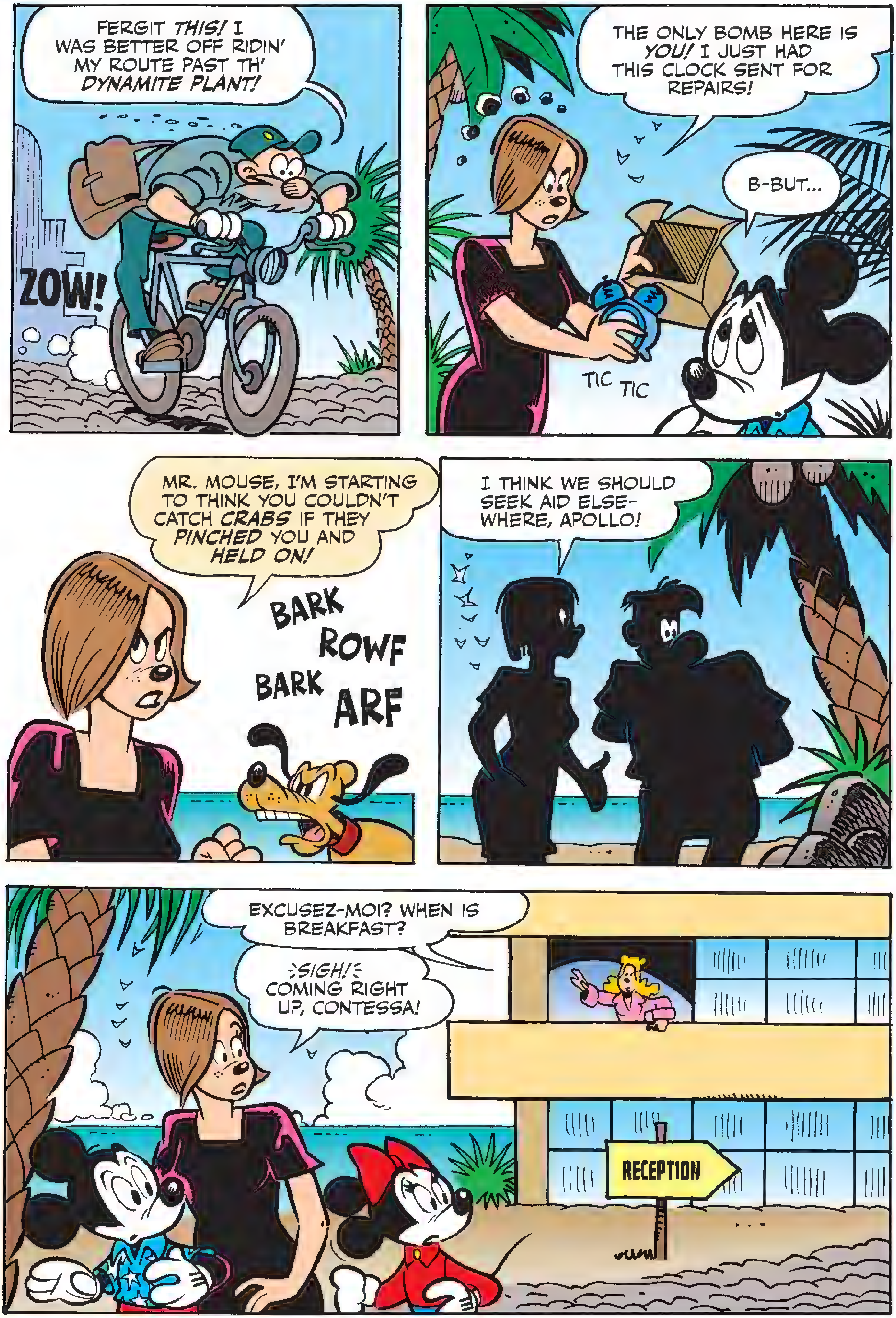

YUP! 'CAUSE WHEN IT COMES TO DEEP-SEA FISHIN', I'M *REALLY* A DEEP-SEA *DUD!*
SAM SMITH AIN'T MUH REAL NAME! IT'S *KRIS P. BAKON!* I MADE UP MUH *ELEGANT PERSONA* TA *WOO* TH' CONTESSA!
I CAN'T EVEN *SWIM*— ON ACCOUNT O' I'M A *DIRT FARMER* FROM *MISSISSIPPI!*
YOU'RE NO SPY! YOU'RE JUST A NUT!
AND WE'VE GOT *PLENTY* OF *THOSE* IN CIRCULATION! ⁏GIGGLE!⁏
NEXT DAY!
SO YOU HAVEN'T FOUND *ANYTHING?*
ARE A *HAMMY ACTOR* AN' A *LOONEY LOTHARIO* "THINGS"?

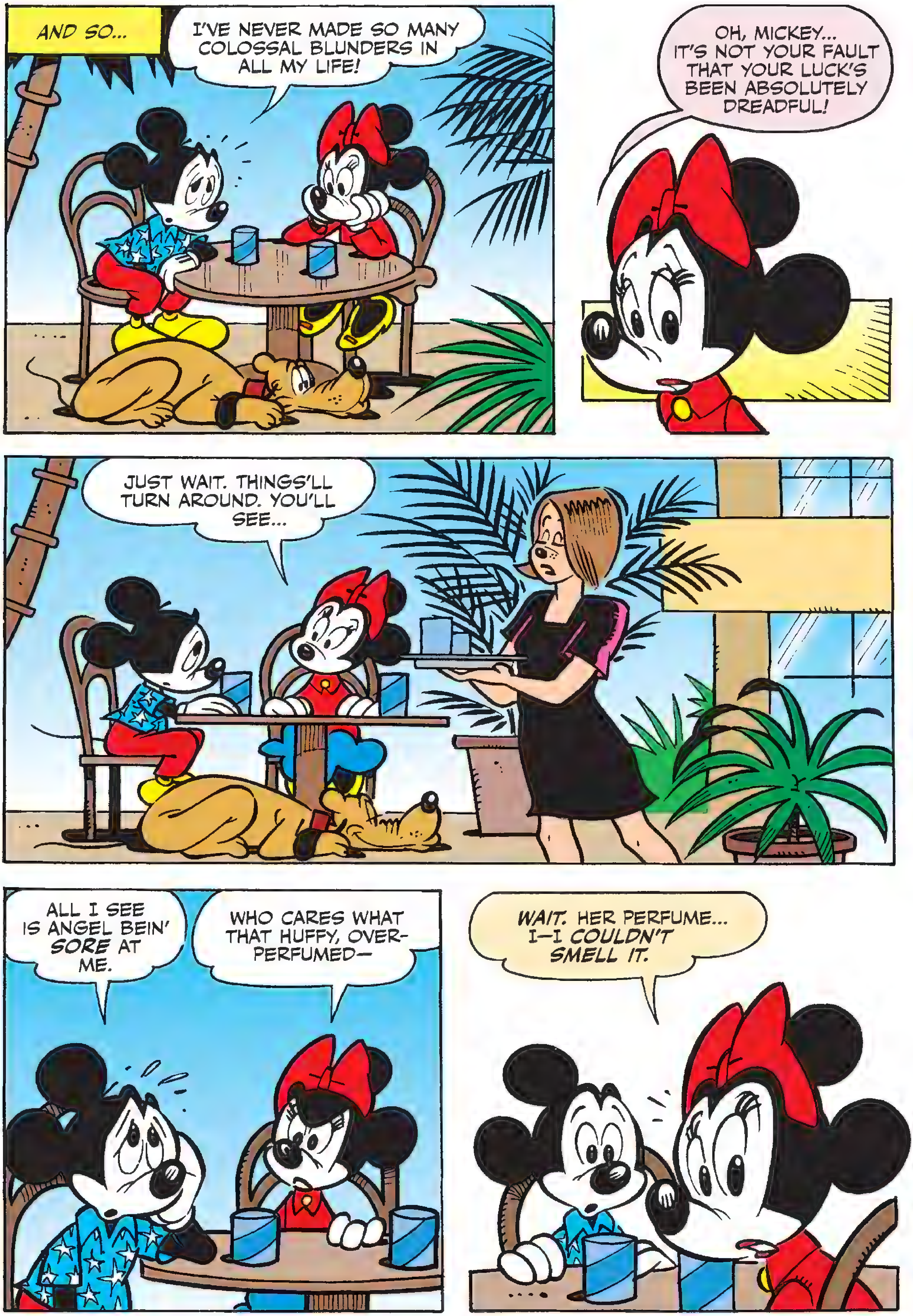

WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, SIR, *EVERY* GUEST HERE IS CRAZY! TAKE *TRENTON TREACLE...*
"...WHO WE CAUGHT CREEPING OUT HIS WINDOW..."
...AND *INTO* A BAKERY— GULPING METRIC TONS OF ECLAIRS IN SECRET FROM HIS WIFE!
BAKERY
Meeting All Your "Kneads"
LONG STORY SHORT, EITHER YOUR CHAMELEON'S *NOT* AT THE HOTEL YET...
meow.
...OR HE'S *STILL IN HIDING* TO AVOID SUSPICION!
SNARL
FAT CATFISH

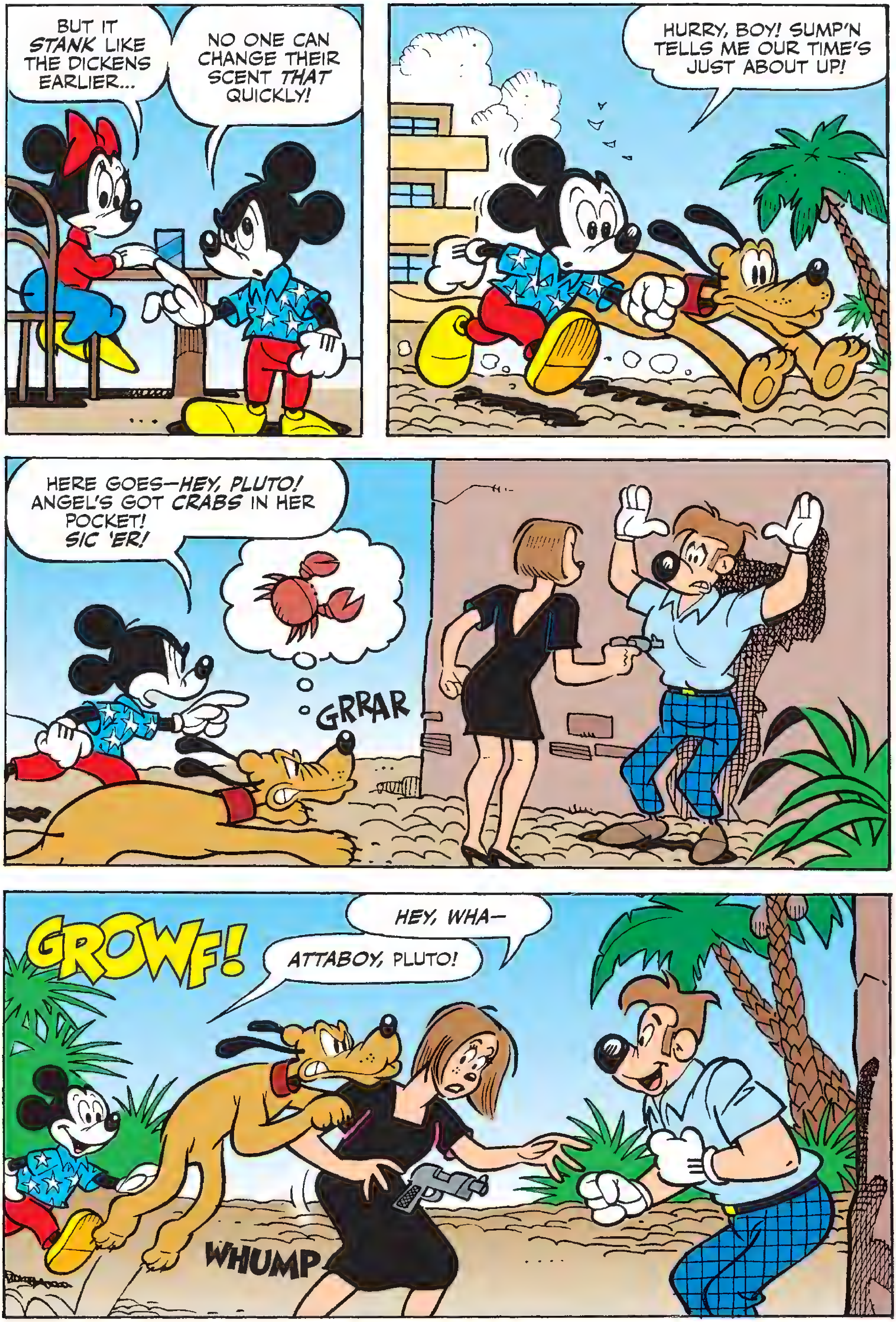

KNOWING HOW CUNNING HE IS, I'D OPT FOR THE LATTER OVER THE FORMER!
JUST THEN!
PLUTO?
BARK
ARF
GROWF
GRRR
PLUTO, NO! DOWN, BOY! THAT'S GLASS—
SPLAT
YiPE!
AW, WELL! GUESS THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YA GET TOO CRABBY... AN' "SHELLFISH"!

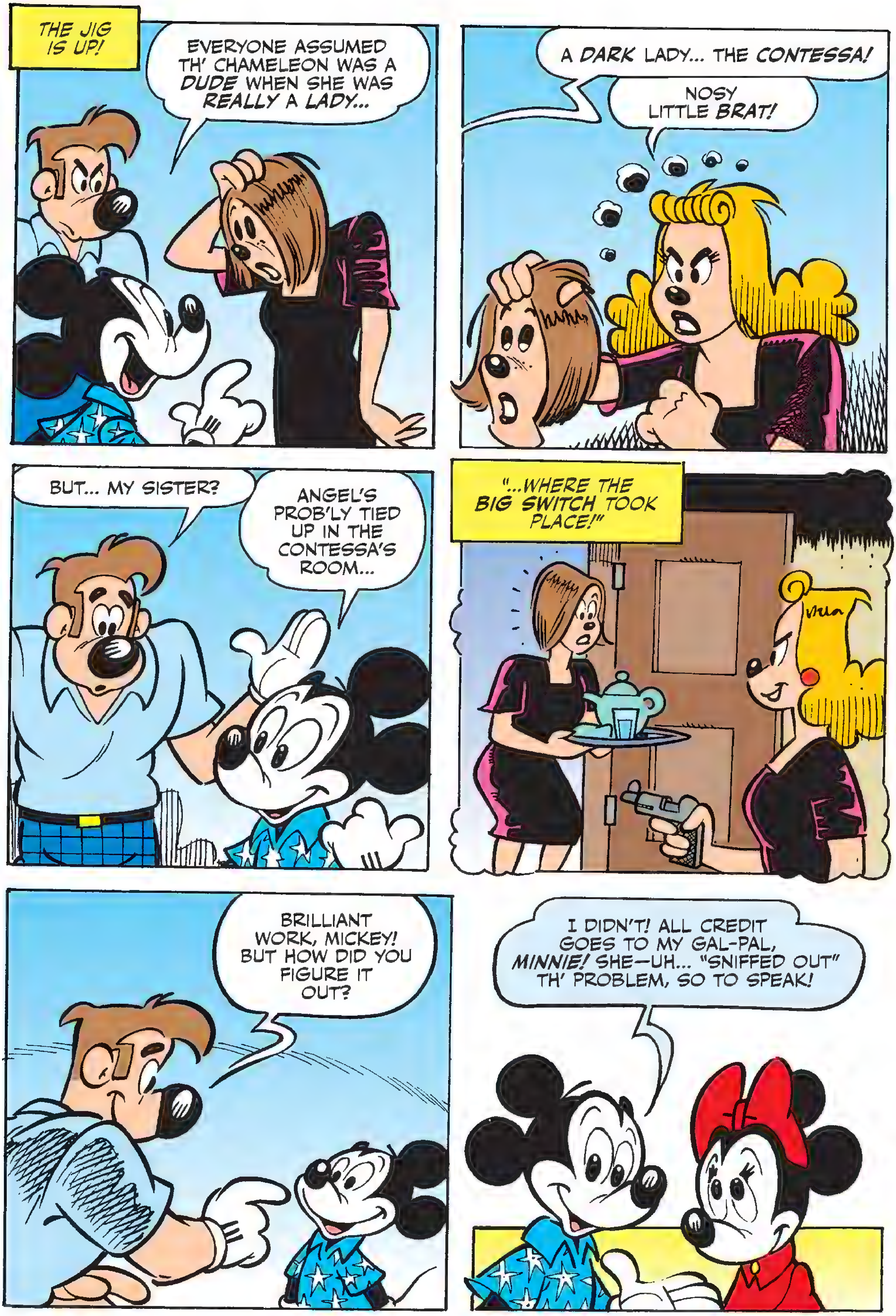

'SCUSE ME, FOLKS! GOT A PACKAGE FER ONE... *ANTILLES?*
OH?... BUT YOU'RE NOT THE POSTMAN I SAW IN THE VILLAGE!
Y'MEAN *BILL?* IT'S HIS BIRTHDAY! HE JUS' LEFT FER VACATION!
DIDJA SEE THAT 'STACHE?
AS FAKE AS A $20 QUARTER!
IT LOOKED LIKE A CATERPILLAR!
UH...
TIC TIC TIC
OMIGOSH! IS THIS THING *TICKIN'?*
TIC TIC TIC

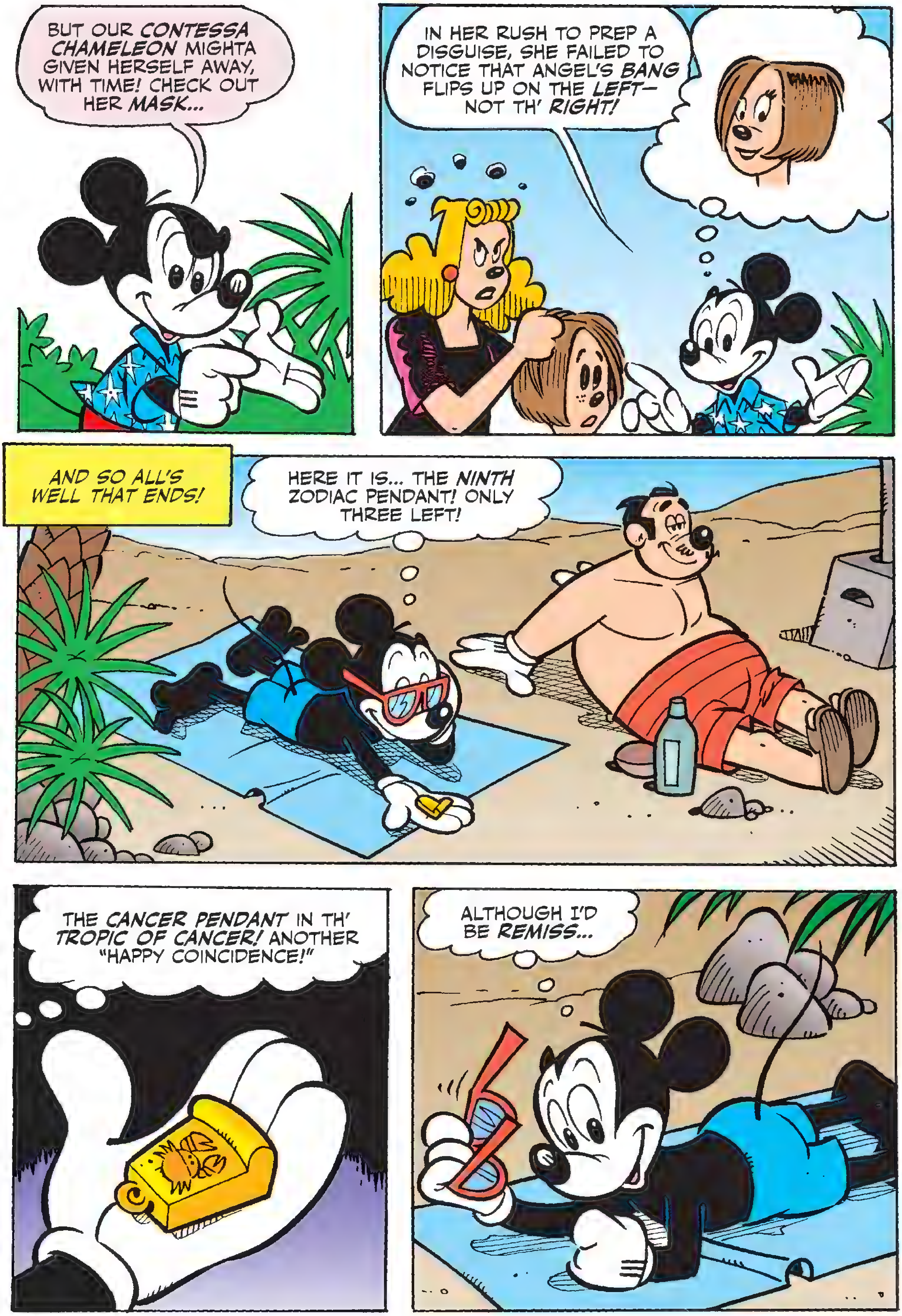

IT'S GOTTA BE A *BOMB!*
CRASH
OKAY, PHONY POSTMAN! TIME TO PAY YOUR PIPER!
C'MERE, CHAMELEON!
HEY!
WHAM
KICK
THROTTLE
POW
PUNCH
NOW I GOTCHA, RASCAL!
C'MON! OFF WITH THAT *SHAG RUG!*
AAIEEE!
YANK!
MICKEY! STOP! THERE'S BEEN A MISUNDERSTANDING!

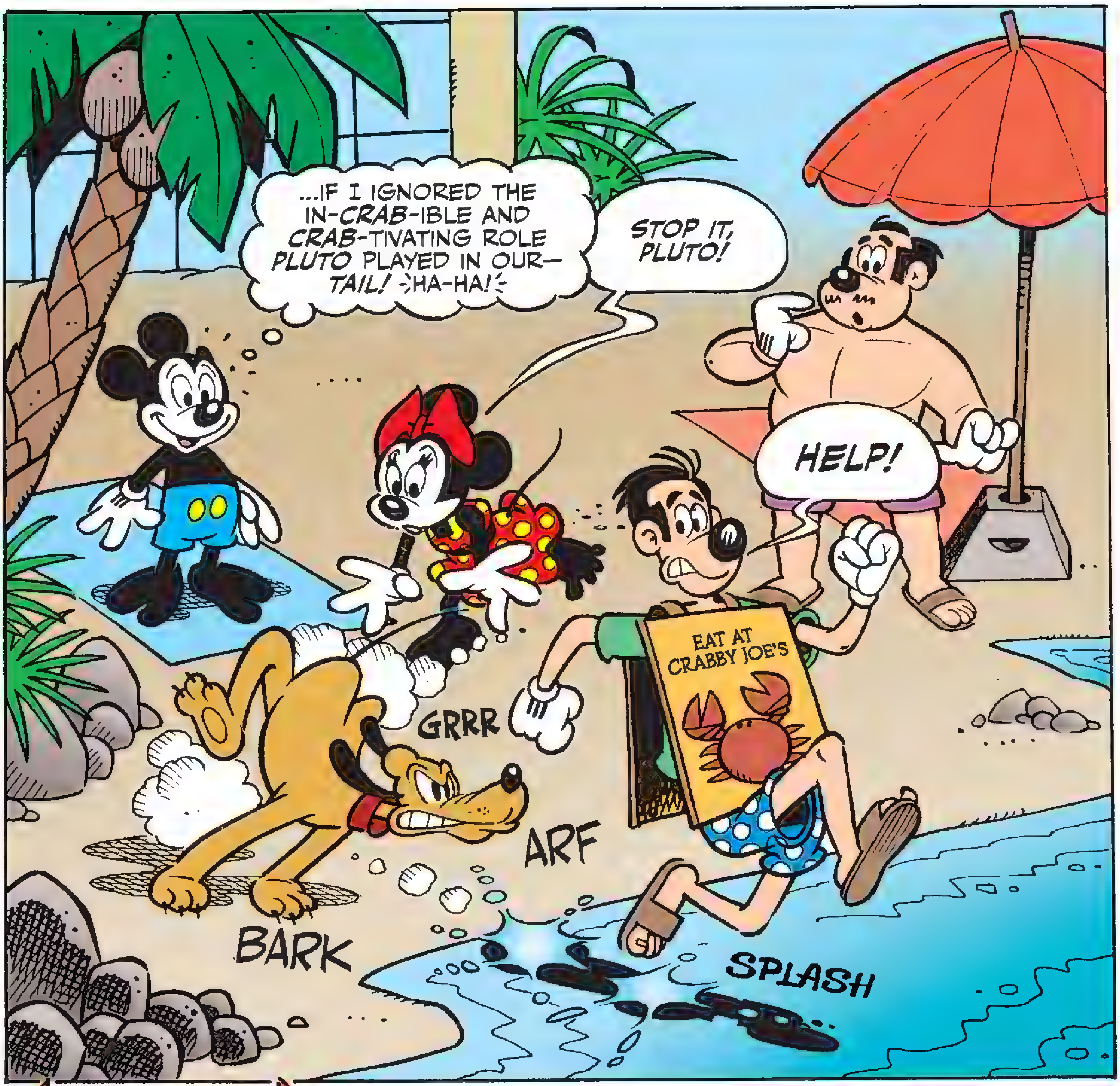

FERGIT *THIS!* I WAS BETTER OFF RIDIN' MY ROUTE PAST TH' *DYNAMITE PLANT!*
ZOW!
THE ONLY BOMB HERE IS *YOU!* I JUST HAD THIS CLOCK SENT FOR REPAIRS!
B-BUT...
TIC TIC
MR. MOUSE, I'M STARTING TO THINK YOU COULDN'T CATCH *CRABS* IF THEY *PINCHED* YOU AND *HELD ON!*
BARK
ROWF
BARK
ARF
I THINK WE SHOULD SEEK AID ELSEWHERE, APOLLO!
EXCUSEZ-MOI? WHEN IS BREAKFAST?
SIGH! COMING RIGHT UP, CONTESSA!
RECEPTION


AND SO...
I'VE NEVER MADE SO MANY COLOSSAL BLUNDERS IN ALL MY LIFE!
OH, MICKEY... IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT THAT YOUR LUCK'S BEEN ABSOLUTELY DREADFUL!
JUST WAIT. THINGS'LL TURN AROUND. YOU'LL SEE...
ALL I SEE IS ANGEL BEIN' *SORE* AT ME.
WHO CARES WHAT THAT HUFFY, OVER-PERFUMED—
WAIT. HER PERFUME... I—I *COULDN'T SMELL IT.*

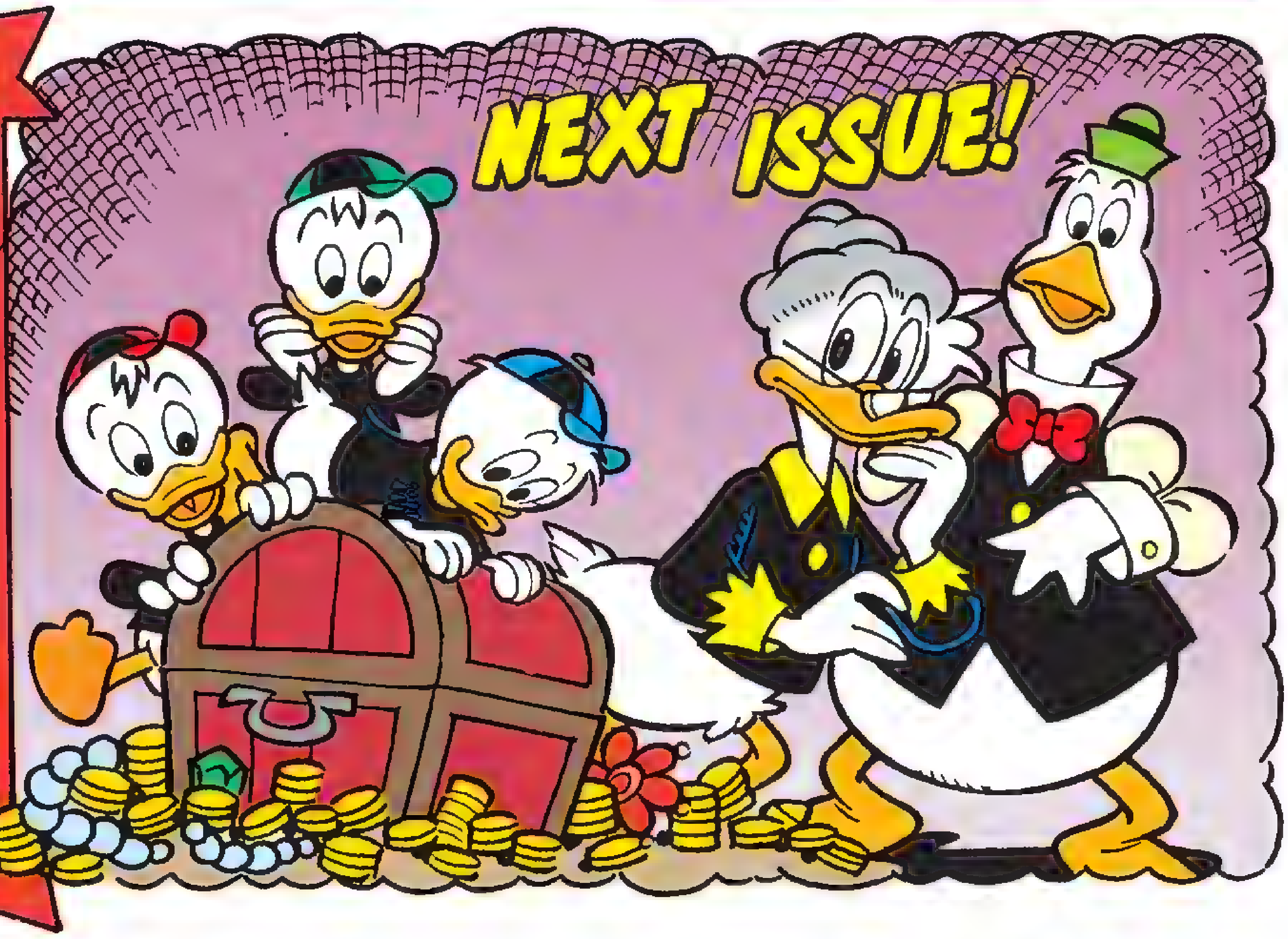

BUT IT *STANK* LIKE THE DICKENS EARLIER...
NO ONE CAN CHANGE THEIR SCENT *THAT* QUICKLY!
HURRY, BOY! SUMP'N TELLS ME OUR TIME'S JUST ABOUT UP!
HERE GOES—*HEY, PLUTO!* ANGEL'S GOT *CRABS* IN HER POCKET! *SIC 'ER!*
GRRAR
GROWF!
HEY, WHA—
ATTABOY, PLUTO!
WHUMP


THE JIG IS UP!
EVERYONE ASSUMED TH' CHAMELEON WAS A DUDE WHEN SHE WAS REALLY A LADY...
A DARK LADY... THE CONTESSA!
NOSY LITTLE BRAT!
BUT... MY SISTER?
ANGEL'S PROB'LY TIED UP IN THE CONTESSA'S ROOM...
"...WHERE THE BIG SWITCH TOOK PLACE!"
BRILLIANT WORK, MICKEY! BUT HOW DID YOU FIGURE IT OUT?
I DIDN'T! ALL CREDIT GOES TO MY GAL-PAL, MINNIE! SHE—UH... "SNIFFED OUT" TH' PROBLEM, SO TO SPEAK!

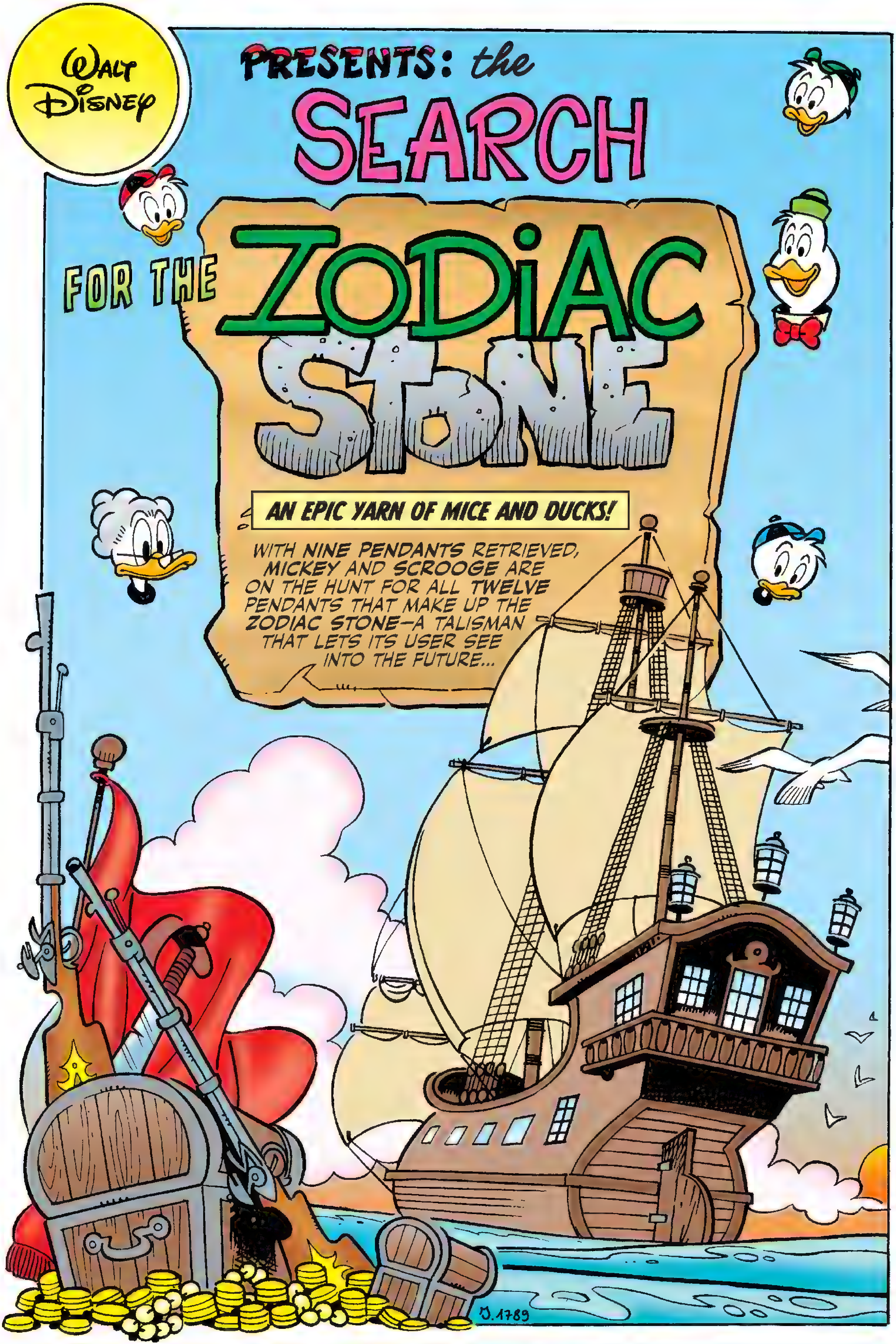

BUT OUR *CONTESSA CHAMELEON* MIGHTA GIVEN HERSELF AWAY, WITH TIME! CHECK OUT HER *MASK*...
IN HER RUSH TO PREP A DISGUISE, SHE FAILED TO NOTICE THAT ANGEL'S *BANG* FLIPS UP ON THE *LEFT*— NOT TH' *RIGHT!*
AND SO ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS!
HERE IT IS... THE *NINTH* ZODIAC PENDANT! ONLY THREE LEFT!
THE *CANCER PENDANT* IN TH' *TROPIC OF CANCER!* ANOTHER "HAPPY COINCIDENCE!"
ALTHOUGH I'D BE *REMISS*...


...IF I IGNORED THE IN-*CRAB*-IBLE AND *CRAB*-TIVATING ROLE *PLUTO* PLAYED IN OUR-*TAIL!* HA-HA!
STOP IT, PLUTO!
HELP!
EAT AT CRABBY JOE'S
GRRR
ARF
BARK
SPLASH

SO WHO WILL THE PROTAGONIST OF OUR **TENTH** ZODIAC ADVENTURE BE? MICKEY, SCROOGE AND PEGLEG PETE MAY HOLD THE **CLUES** TO THE PENDANTS' **OWNERS**—BUT ONLY **HUEY, DEWEY AND LOUIE** CAN TAKE THE NEXT **SEA-WORTHY** STEP! JOIN THEM ON "THE SEARCH FOR THE ZODIAC STONE" IN PART 10... **"BLONDBEARD'S PIRATE PLUNDER!"**



GRANDMA'S BULL IS PLOWIN' STRAIGHT FOR US... FULL STEAM AHEAD!
HE WAS GRAZING CALMLY A SECOND AGO! WHAT'S GOT THIS GUY SO RILED?!
RRUMBLE
YESSS... NOW LET'S SEE IF THE DEAR DOCTOR WAS RIGHT!
STILL, SEE WHAT ASTRONOMO LEFT US— A FIRST-HAND RECORD OF CIVILIZATIONS FROM THE COLONIAL ERA ON UP!
WOW...


Walt Disney
PRESENTS: the
SEARCH
FOR THE
ZODiAC
STONE
AN EPIC YARN OF MICE AND DUCKS!
WITH NINE PENDANTS RETRIEVED, MICKEY AND SCROOGE ARE ON THE HUNT FOR ALL TWELVE PENDANTS THAT MAKE UP THE ZODIAC STONE—A TALISMAN THAT LETS ITS USER SEE INTO THE FUTURE...
J.1789

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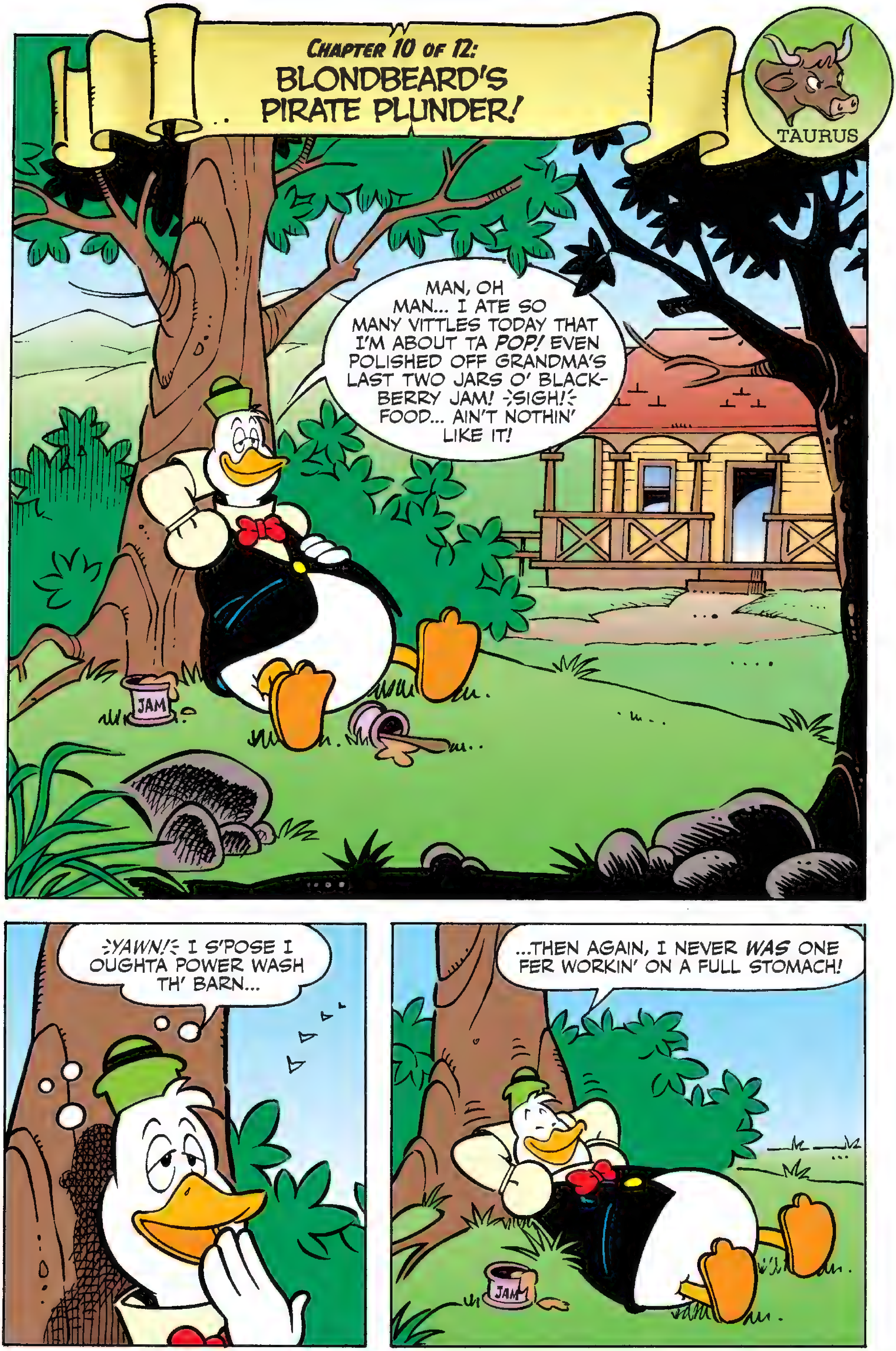
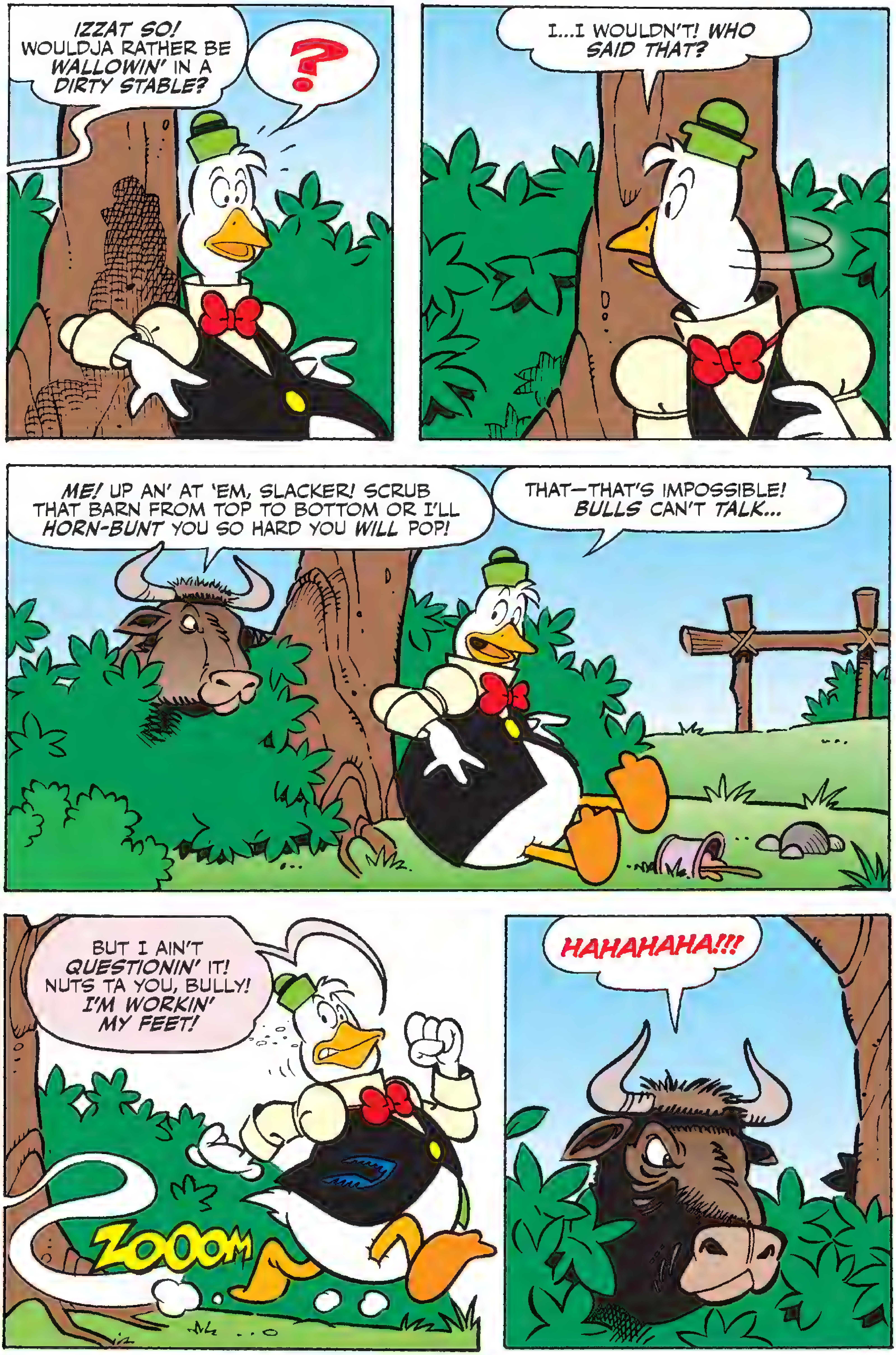
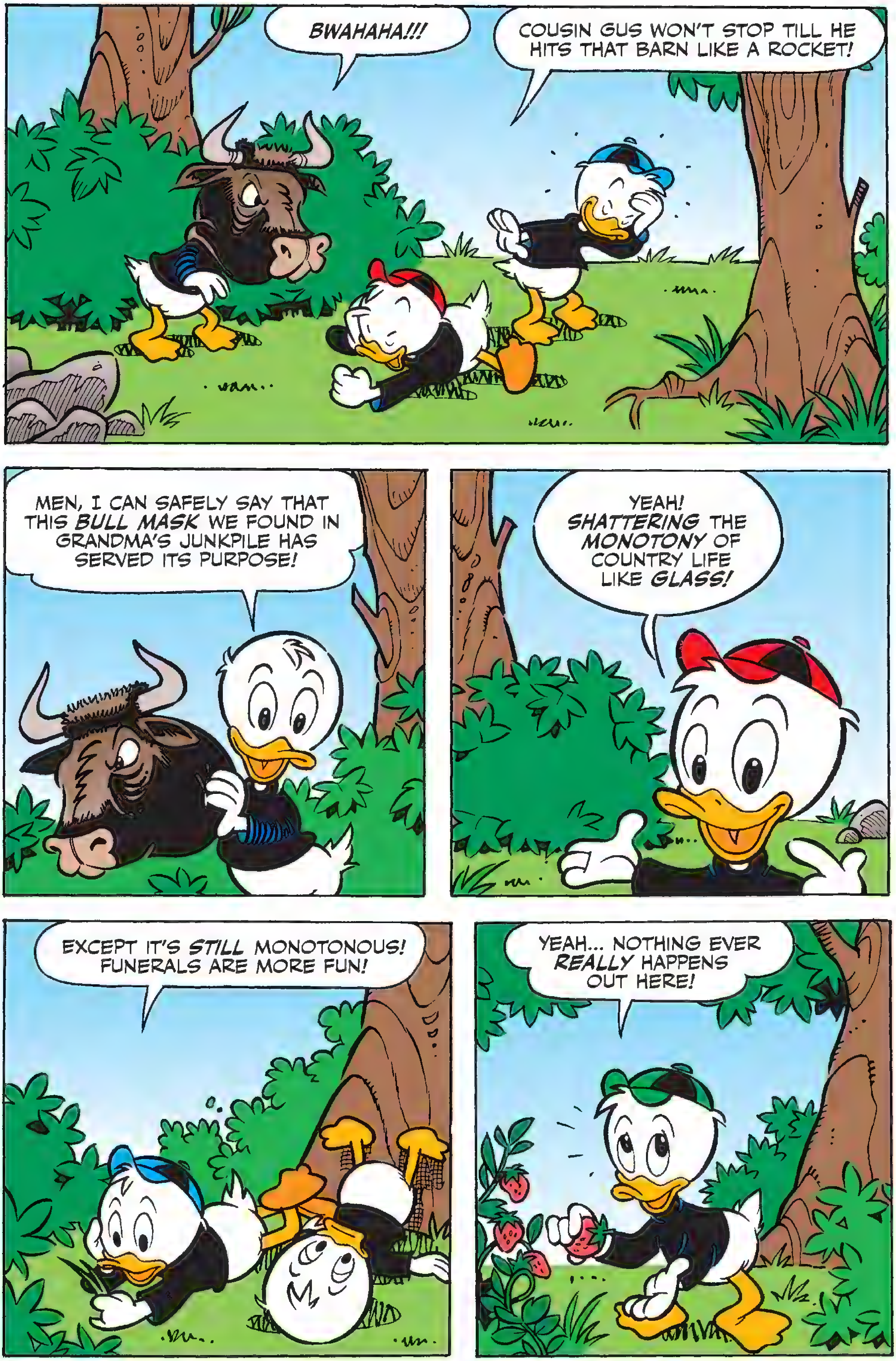
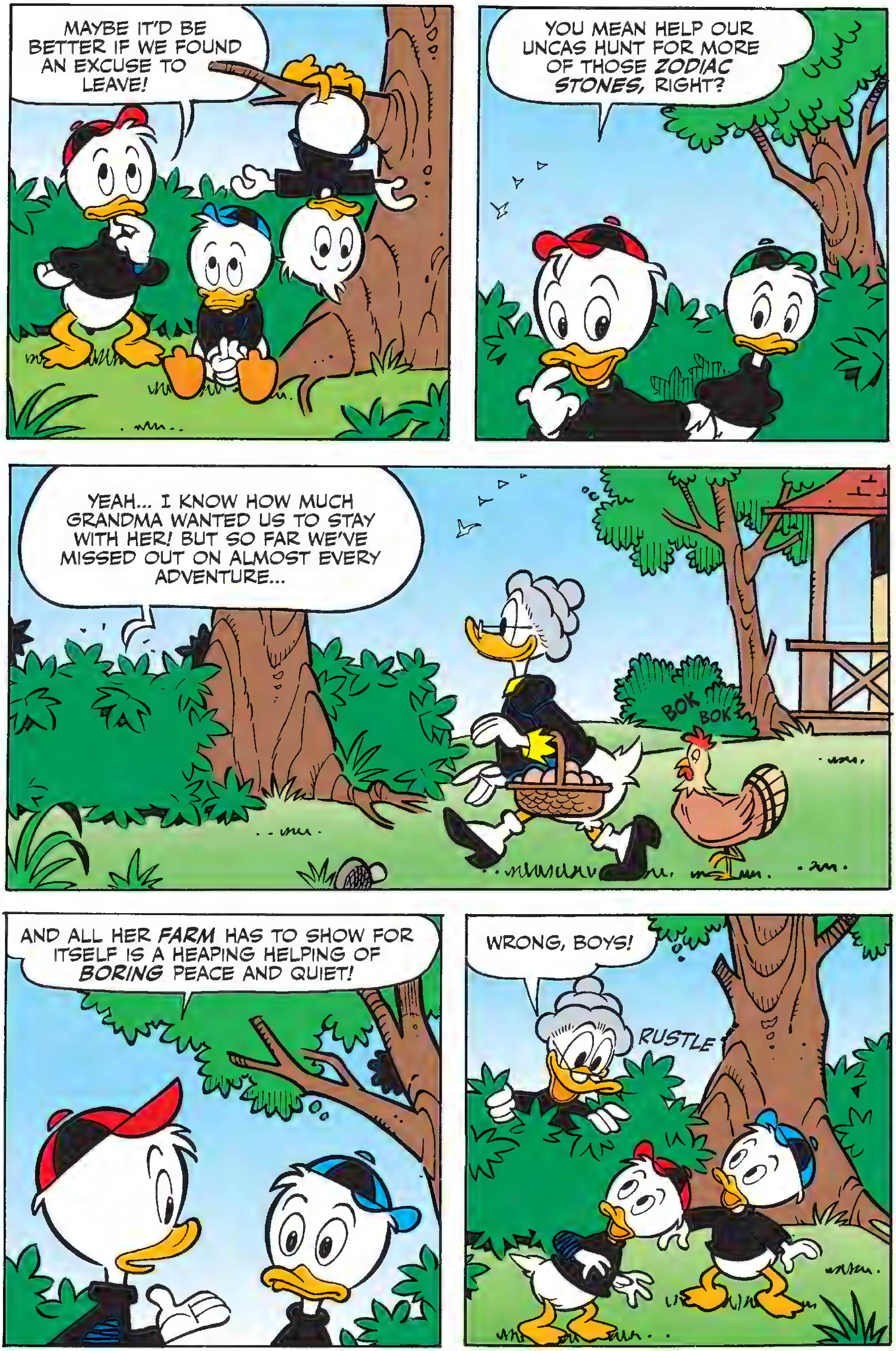
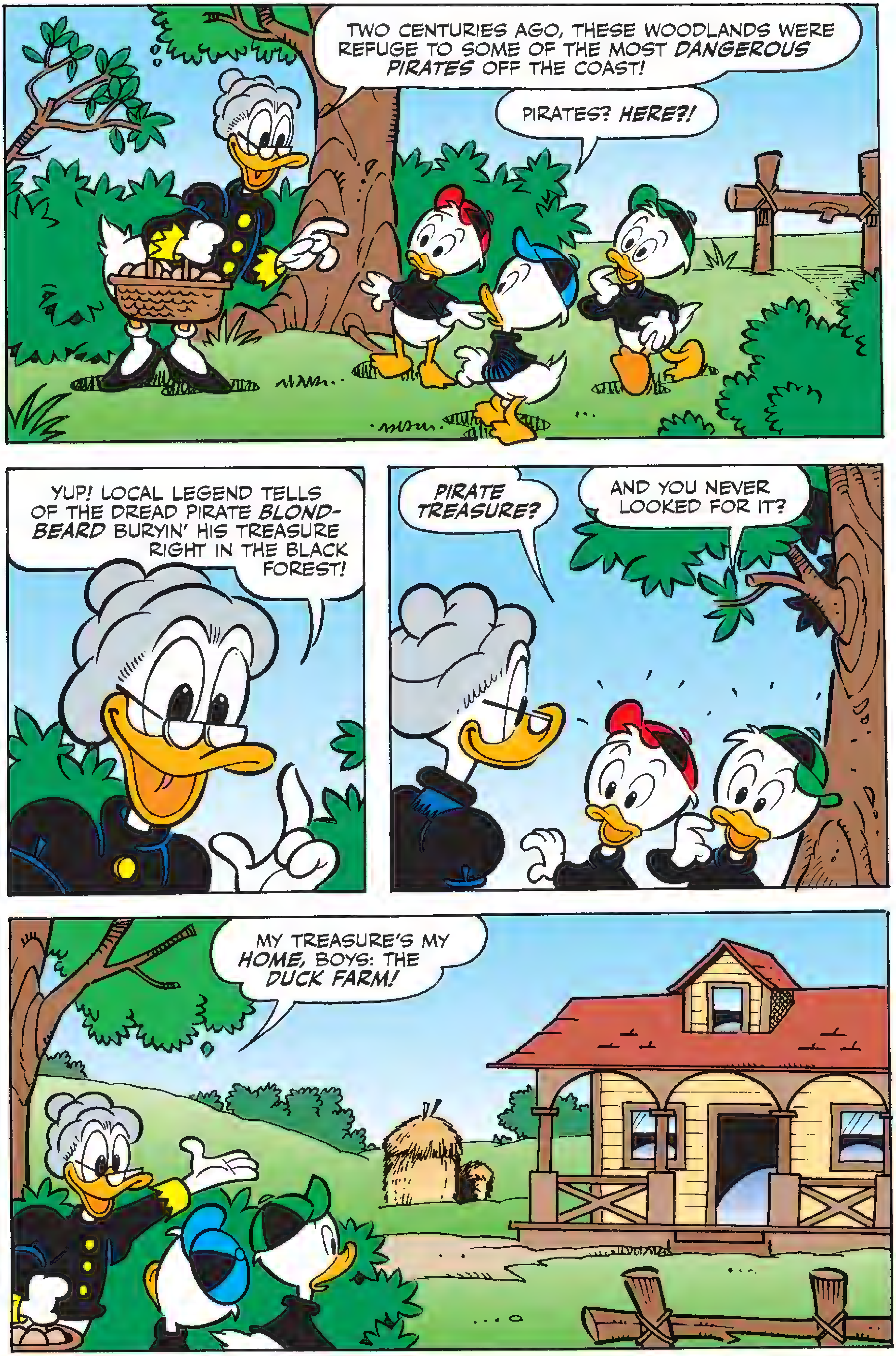
CHAPTER 10 OF 12:
BLONDBEARD'S PIRATE PLUNDER!

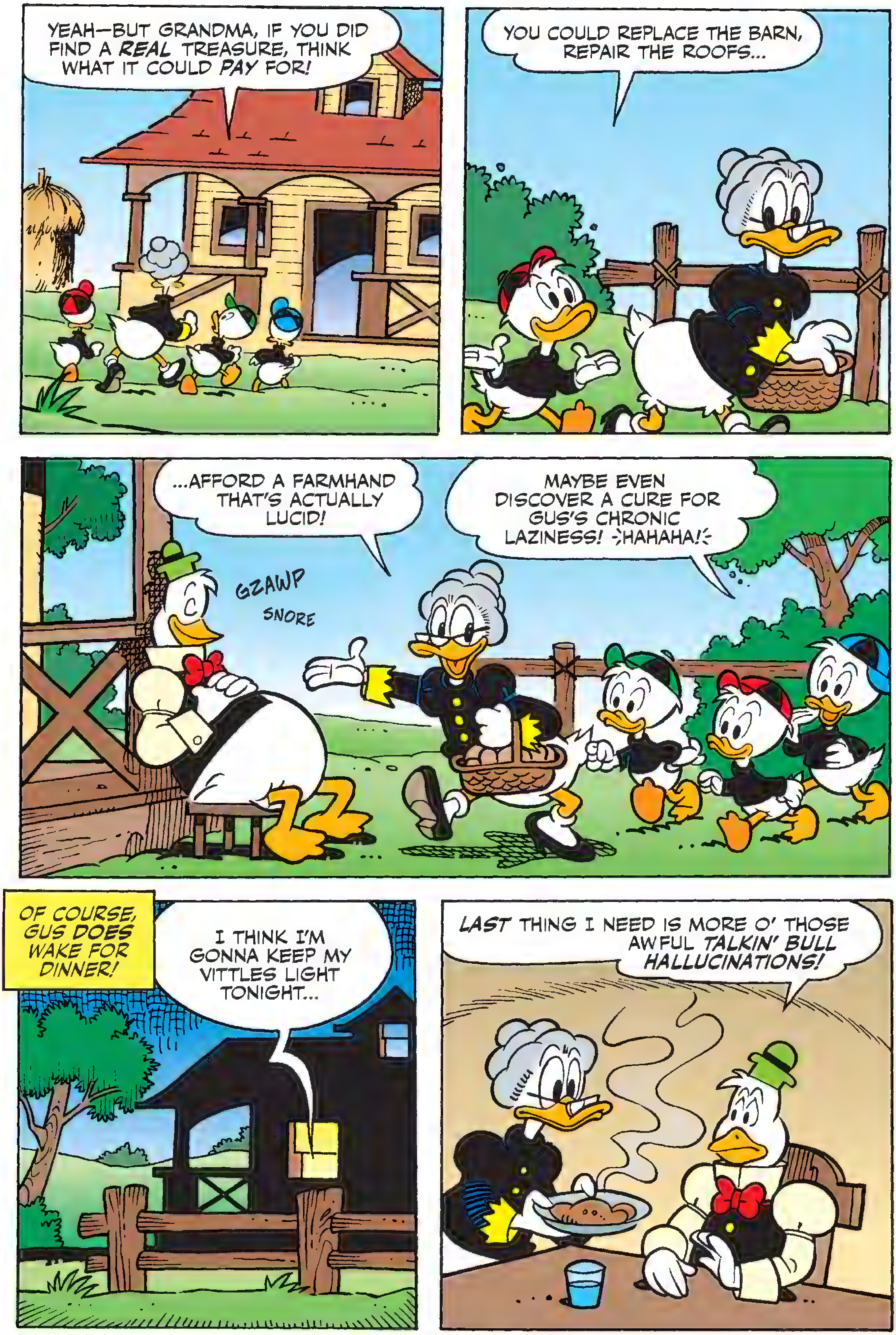

TAURUS
MAN, OH MAN... I ATE SO MANY VITTLES TODAY THAT I'M ABOUT TA *POP!* EVEN POLISHED OFF GRANDMA'S LAST TWO JARS O' BLACKBERRY JAM! -SIGH!- FOOD... AIN'T NOTHIN' LIKE IT!
JAM
-YAWN!- I S'POSE I OUGHTA POWER WASH TH' BARN...
...THEN AGAIN, I NEVER *WAS* ONE FER WORKIN' ON A FULL STOMACH!
JAM

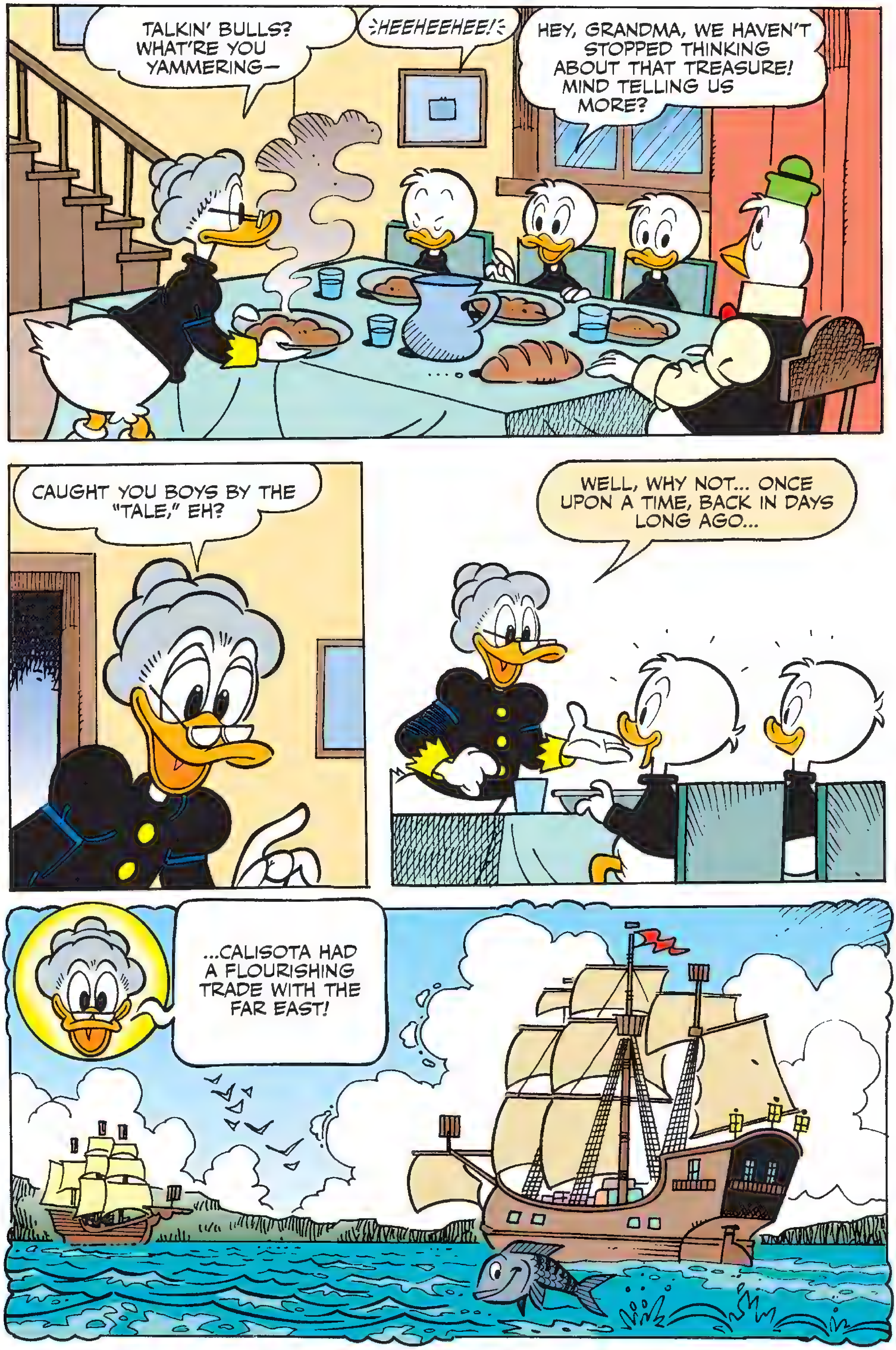

IZZAT SO! WOULDJA RATHER BE WALLOWIN' IN A DIRTY STABLE?
?
I...I WOULDN'T! WHO SAID THAT?
ME! UP AN' AT 'EM, SLACKER! SCRUB THAT BARN FROM TOP TO BOTTOM OR I'LL HORN-BUNT YOU SO HARD YOU WILL POP!
THAT—THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! BULLS CAN'T TALK...
BUT I AIN'T QUESTIONIN' IT! NUTS TA YOU, BULLY! I'M WORKIN' MY FEET!
ZOOOM
HAHAHAHA!!!

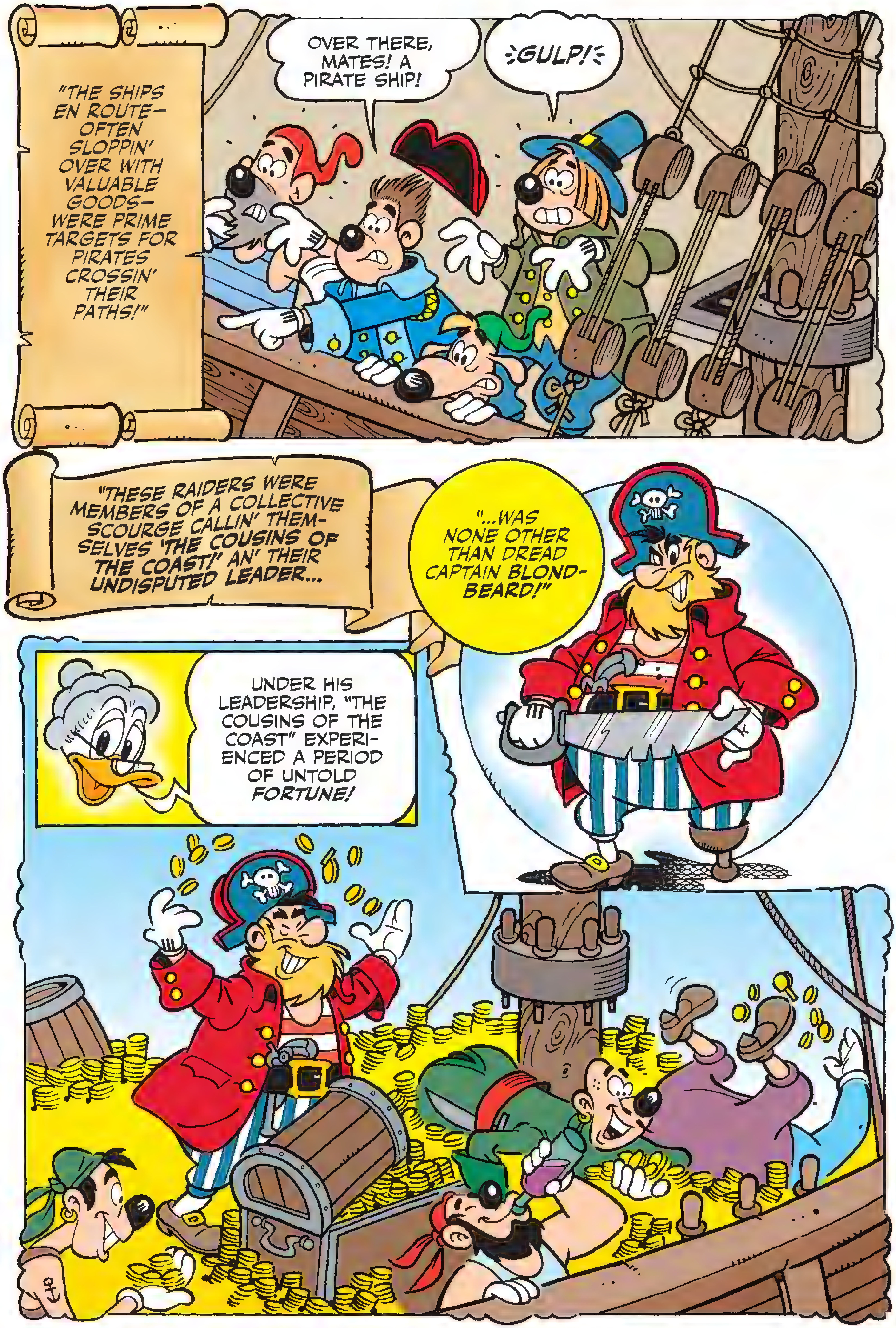

BWAHAHA!!!
COUSIN GUS WON'T STOP TILL HE HITS THAT BARN LIKE A ROCKET!
MEN, I CAN SAFELY SAY THAT THIS BULL MASK WE FOUND IN GRANDMA'S JUNKPILE HAS SERVED ITS PURPOSE!
YEAH! SHATTERING THE MONOTONY OF COUNTRY LIFE LIKE GLASS!
EXCEPT IT'S STILL MONOTONOUS! FUNERALS ARE MORE FUN!
YEAH... NOTHING EVER REALLY HAPPENS OUT HERE!

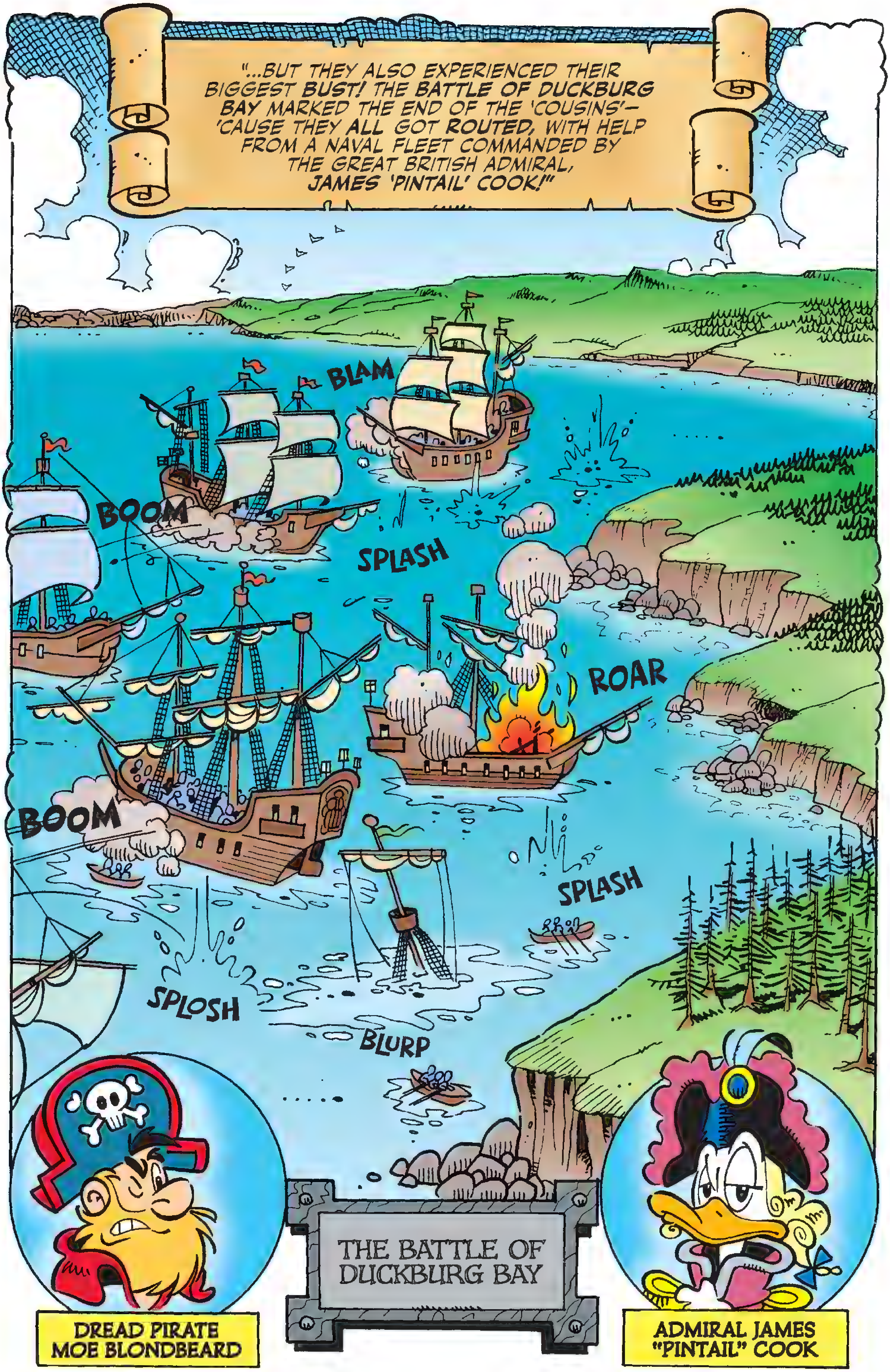

MAYBE IT'D BE BETTER IF WE FOUND AN EXCUSE TO LEAVE!
YOU MEAN HELP OUR UNCAS HUNT FOR MORE OF THOSE *ZODIAC STONES,* RIGHT?
YEAH... I KNOW HOW MUCH GRANDMA WANTED US TO STAY WITH HER! BUT SO FAR WE'VE MISSED OUT ON ALMOST EVERY ADVENTURE...
BOK
BOK
AND ALL HER *FARM* HAS TO SHOW FOR ITSELF IS A HEAPING HELPING OF *BORING* PEACE AND QUIET!
WRONG, BOYS!
RUSTLE

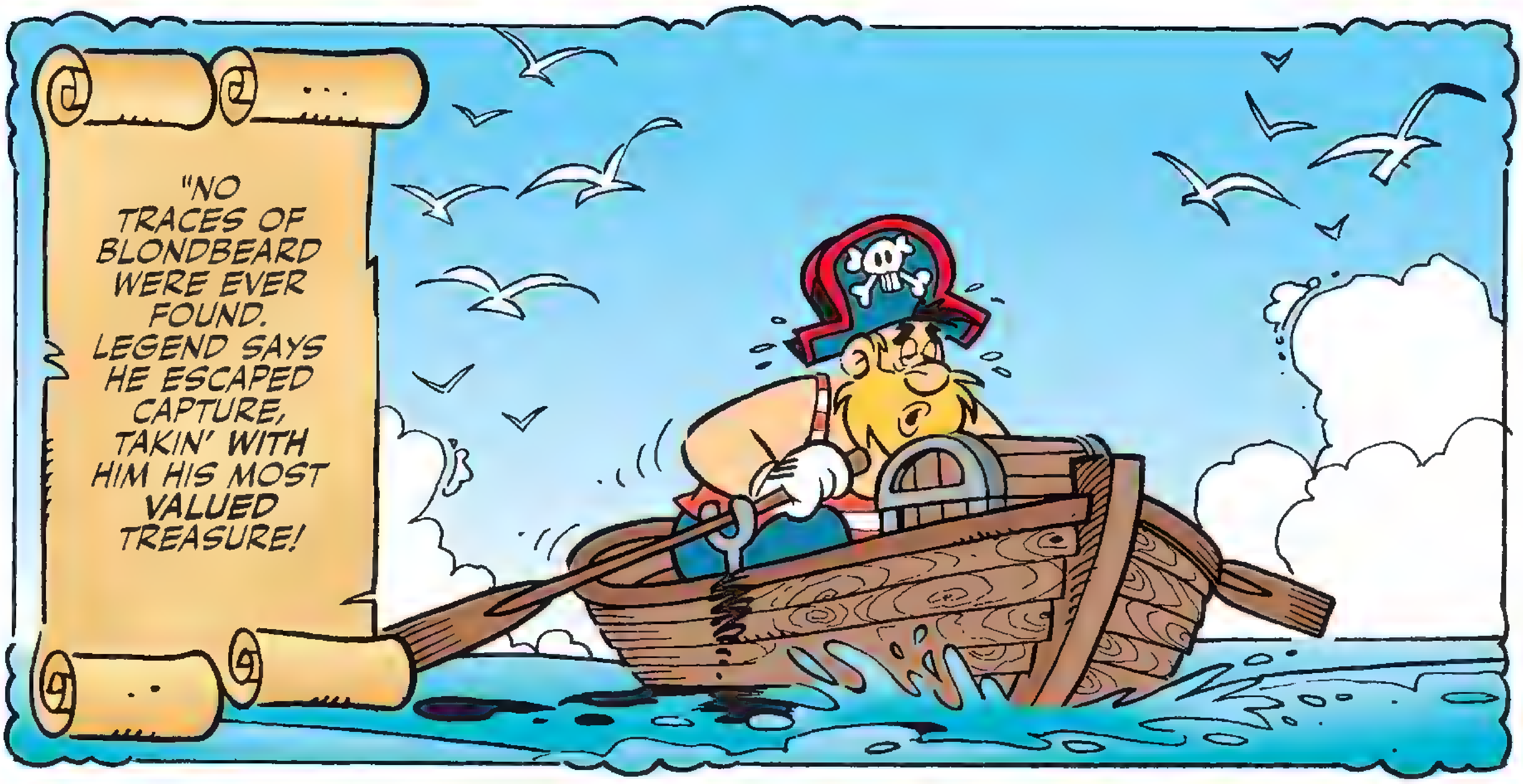

TWO CENTURIES AGO, THESE WOODLANDS WERE REFUGE TO SOME OF THE MOST *DANGEROUS PIRATES* OFF THE COAST!
PIRATES? *HERE?!*
YUP! LOCAL LEGEND TELLS OF THE DREAD PIRATE *BLONDBEARD* BURYIN' HIS TREASURE RIGHT IN THE BLACK FOREST!
PIRATE TREASURE?
AND YOU NEVER LOOKED FOR IT?
MY TREASURE'S MY *HOME,* BOYS: THE *DUCK FARM!*


YEAH—BUT GRANDMA, IF YOU DID FIND A *REAL* TREASURE, THINK WHAT IT COULD *PAY* FOR!
YOU COULD REPLACE THE BARN, REPAIR THE ROOFS...
...AFFORD A FARMHAND THAT'S ACTUALLY LUCID!
GZAWP
SNORE
MAYBE EVEN DISCOVER A CURE FOR GUS'S CHRONIC LAZINESS! HAHAHA!
OF COURSE, GUS DOES WAKE FOR DINNER!
I THINK I'M GONNA KEEP MY VITTLES LIGHT TONIGHT...
LAST THING I NEED IS MORE O' THOSE AWFUL *TALKIN' BULL HALLUCINATIONS!*

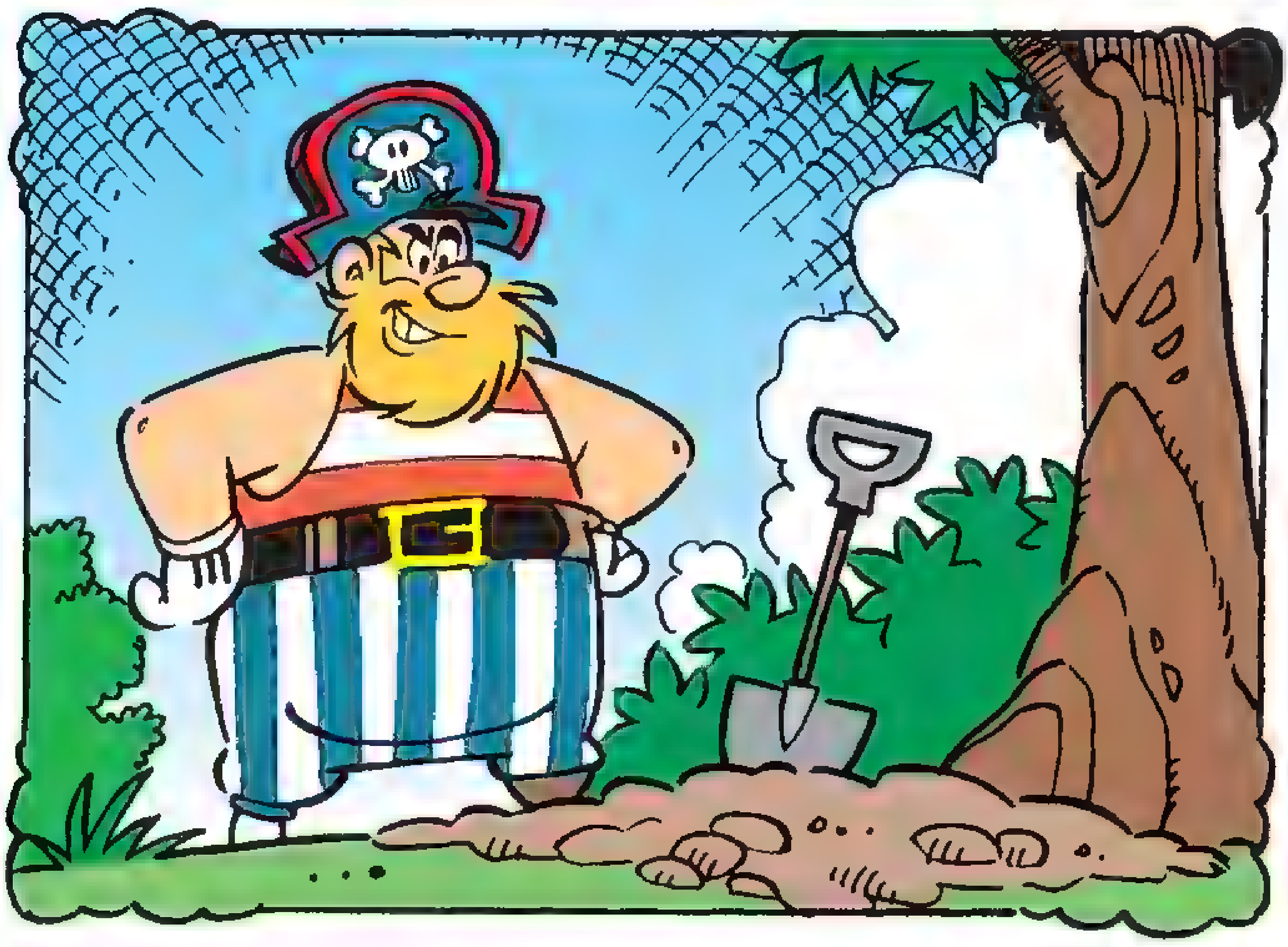

TALKIN' BULLS? WHAT'RE YOU YAMMERING—
HEEHEEHEE!
HEY, GRANDMA, WE HAVEN'T STOPPED THINKING ABOUT THAT TREASURE! MIND TELLING US MORE?
CAUGHT YOU BOYS BY THE "TALE," EH?
WELL, WHY NOT... ONCE UPON A TIME, BACK IN DAYS LONG AGO...
...CALISOTA HAD A FLOURISHING TRADE WITH THE FAR EAST!

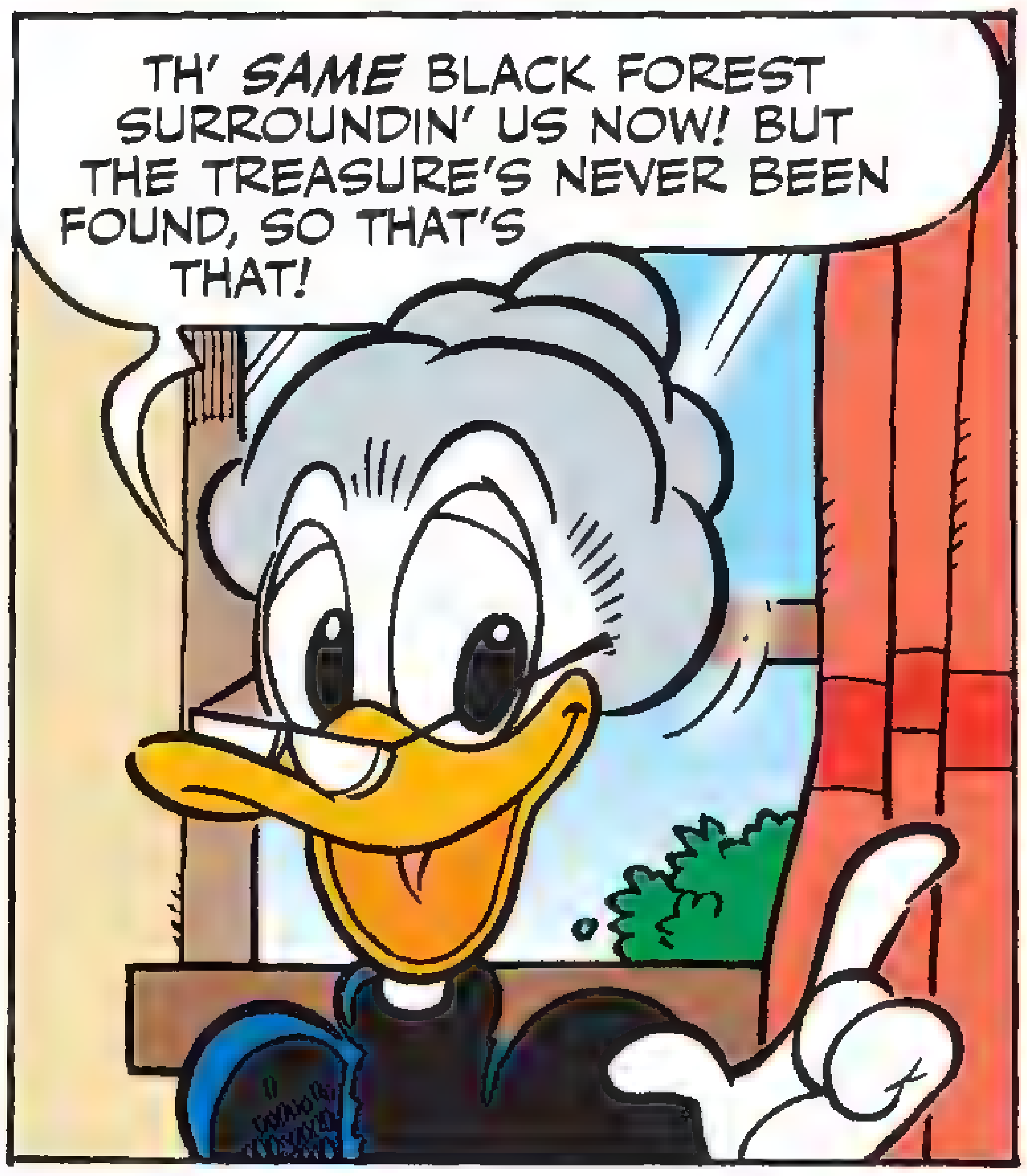

"THE SHIPS EN ROUTE—OFTEN SLOPPIN' OVER WITH VALUABLE GOODS—WERE PRIME TARGETS FOR PIRATES CROSSIN' THEIR PATHS!"
OVER THERE, MATES! A PIRATE SHIP!
GULP!
"THESE RAIDERS WERE MEMBERS OF A COLLECTIVE SCOURGE CALLIN' THEMSELVES 'THE COUSINS OF THE COAST!' AN' THEIR UNDISPUTED LEADER...
"...WAS NONE OTHER THAN DREAD CAPTAIN BLONDBEARD!"
UNDER HIS LEADERSHIP, "THE COUSINS OF THE COAST" EXPERIENCED A PERIOD OF UNTOLD FORTUNE!

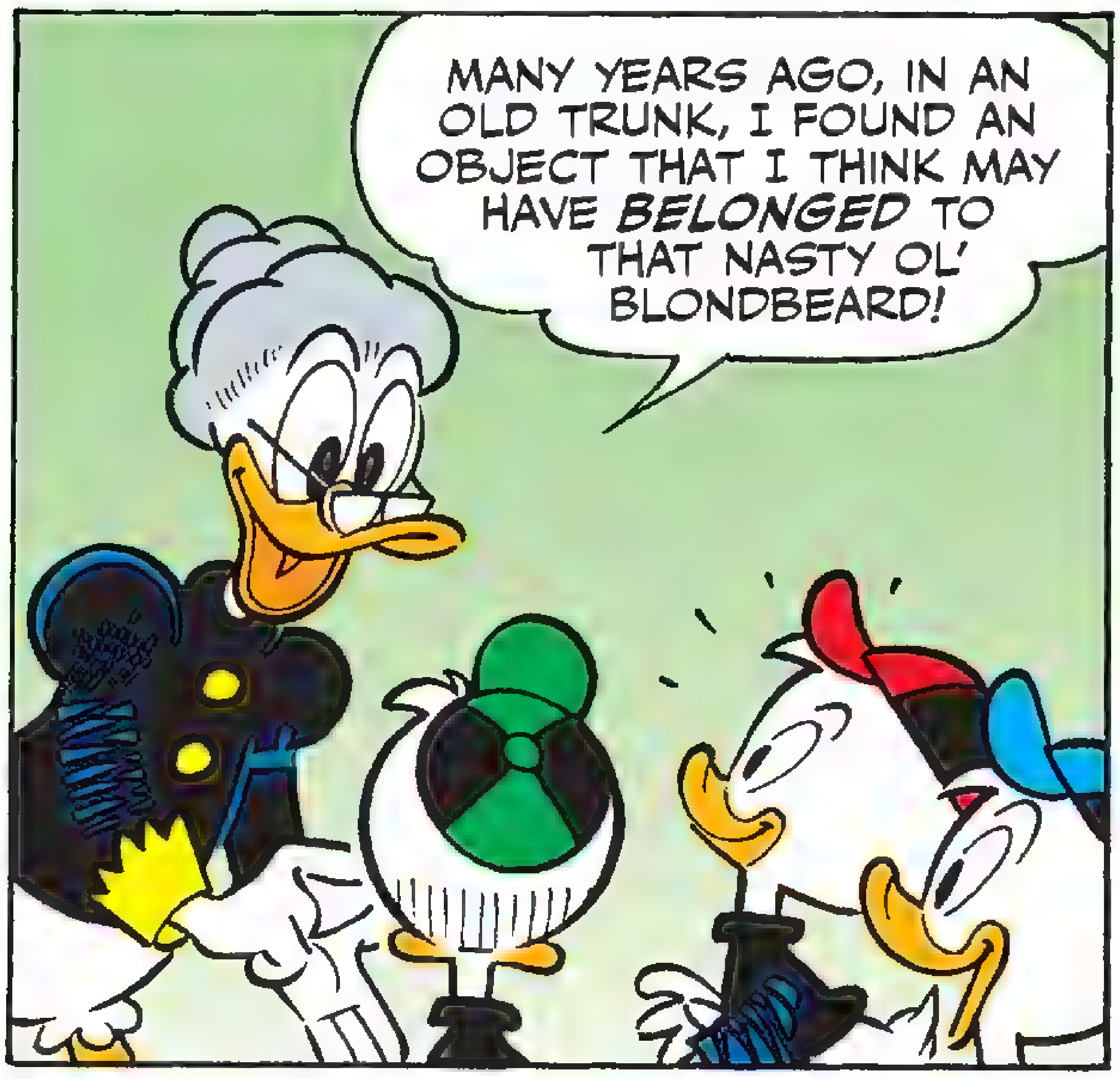

"...BUT THEY ALSO EXPERIENCED THEIR BIGGEST BUST! THE BATTLE OF DUCKBURG BAY MARKED THE END OF THE 'COUSINS'— 'CAUSE THEY ALL GOT ROUTED, WITH HELP FROM A NAVAL FLEET COMMANDED BY THE GREAT BRITISH ADMIRAL, JAMES 'PINTAIL' COOK!"
BLAM
BOOM
SPLASH
ROAR
BOOM
SPLASH
SPLOSH
BLURP
THE BATTLE OF DUCKBURG BAY
DREAD PIRATE MOE BLONDBEARD
ADMIRAL JAMES "PINTAIL" COOK

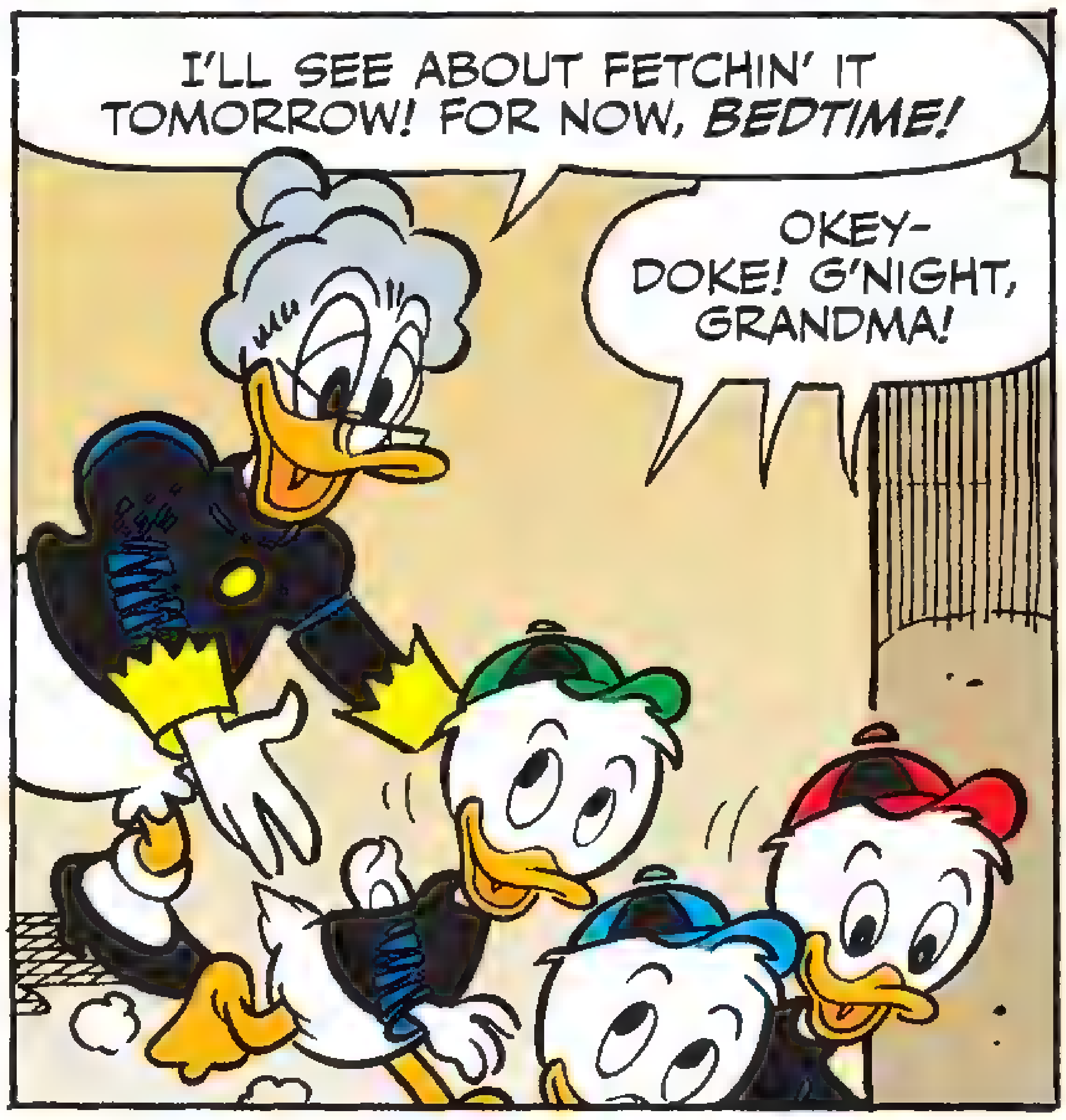

"NO TRACES OF BLONDBEARD WERE EVER FOUND. LEGEND SAYS HE ESCAPED CAPTURE, TAKIN' WITH HIM HIS MOST VALUED TREASURE!

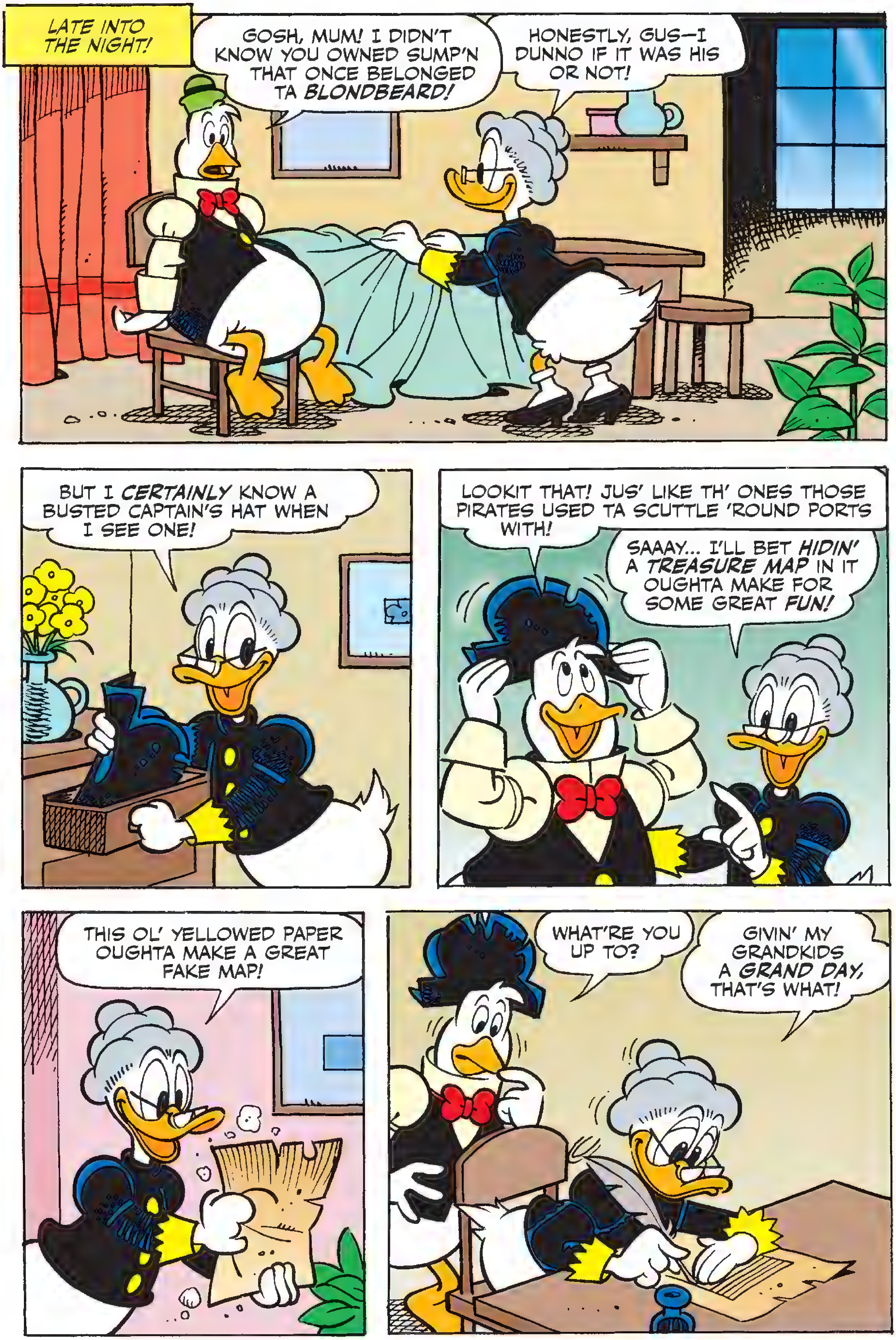
"FOLKS SAY THAT BLONDBEARD ENDED UP **HERE**, AND HE BURIED HIS PIRATE BOOTY **SOMEWHERE** IN THE **BLACK FOREST**..."

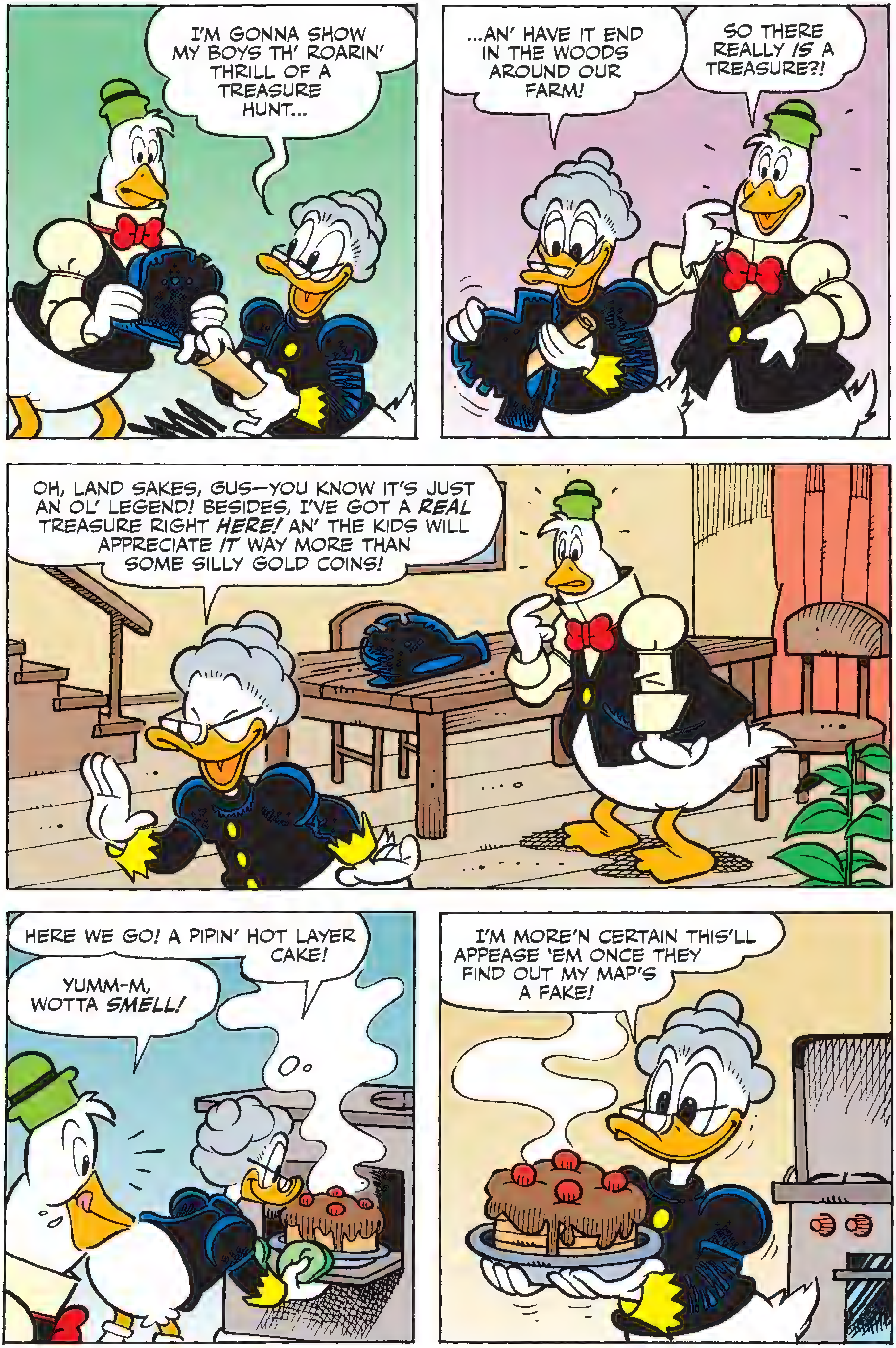


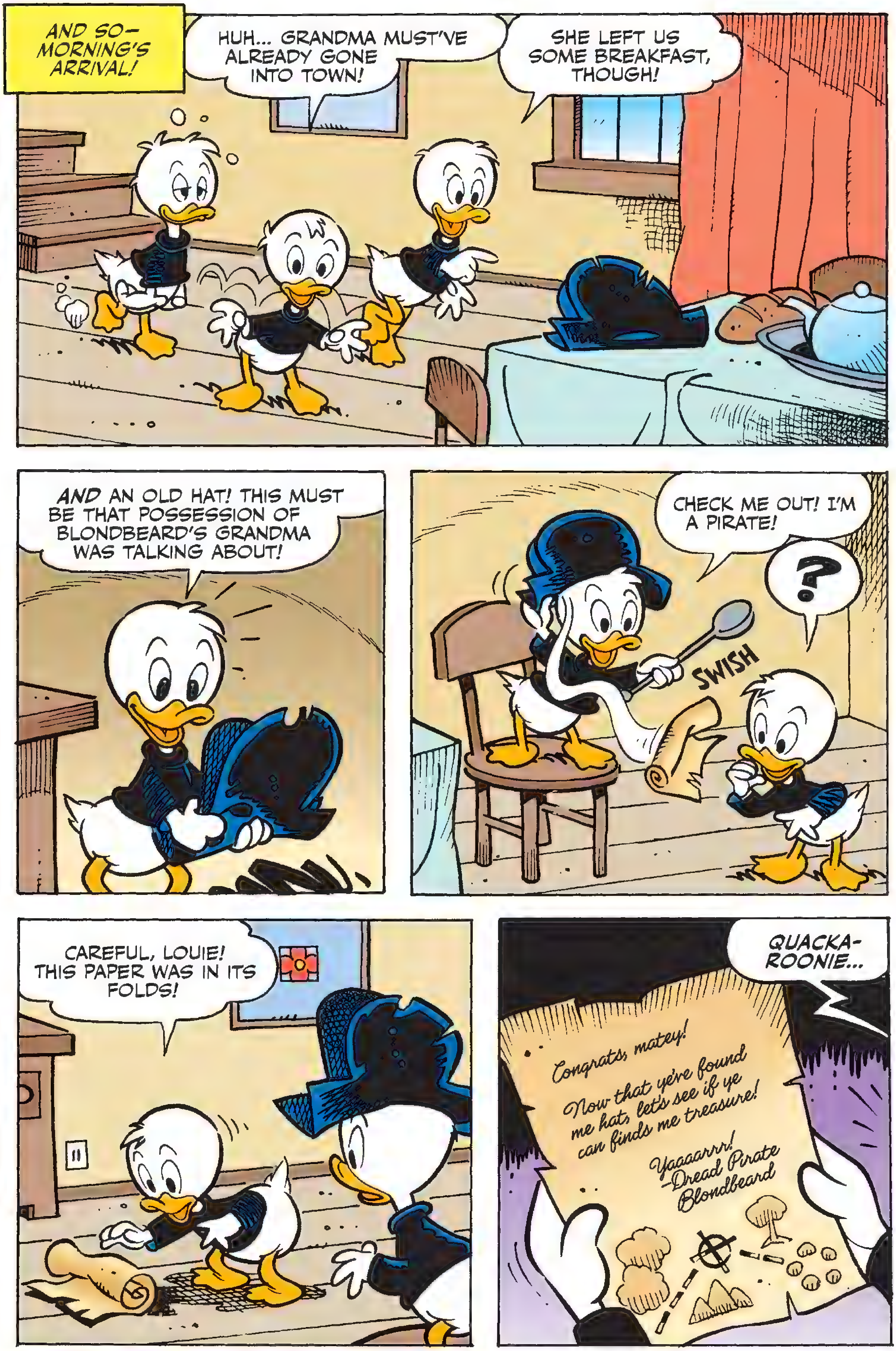

TH' **SAME** BLACK FOREST SURROUNDIN' US NOW! BUT THE TREASURE'S NEVER BEEN FOUND, SO THAT'S THAT!

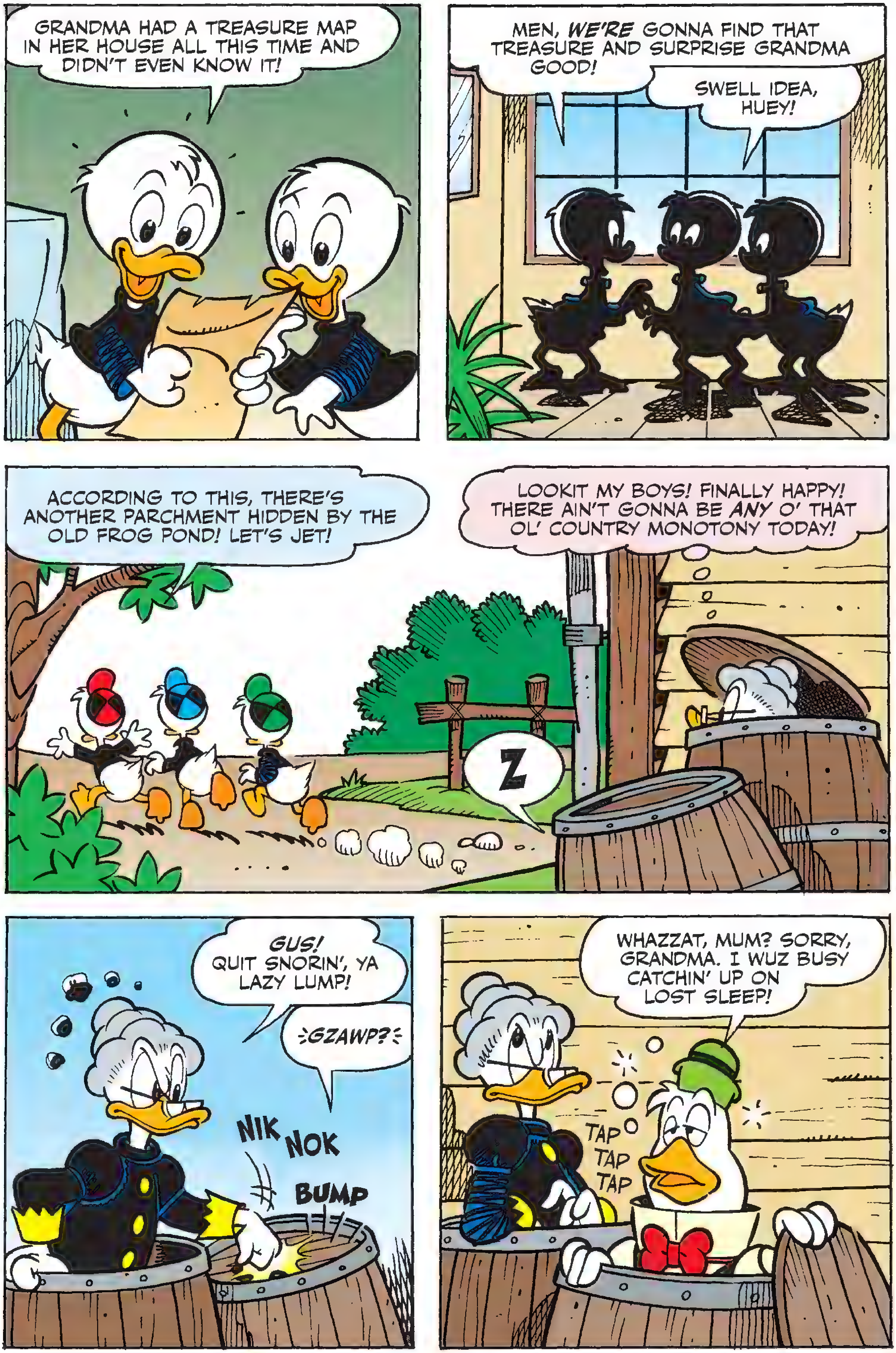

MANY YEARS AGO, IN AN OLD TRUNK, I FOUND AN OBJECT THAT I THINK MAY HAVE **BELONGED** TO THAT NASTY OL' BLONDBEARD!

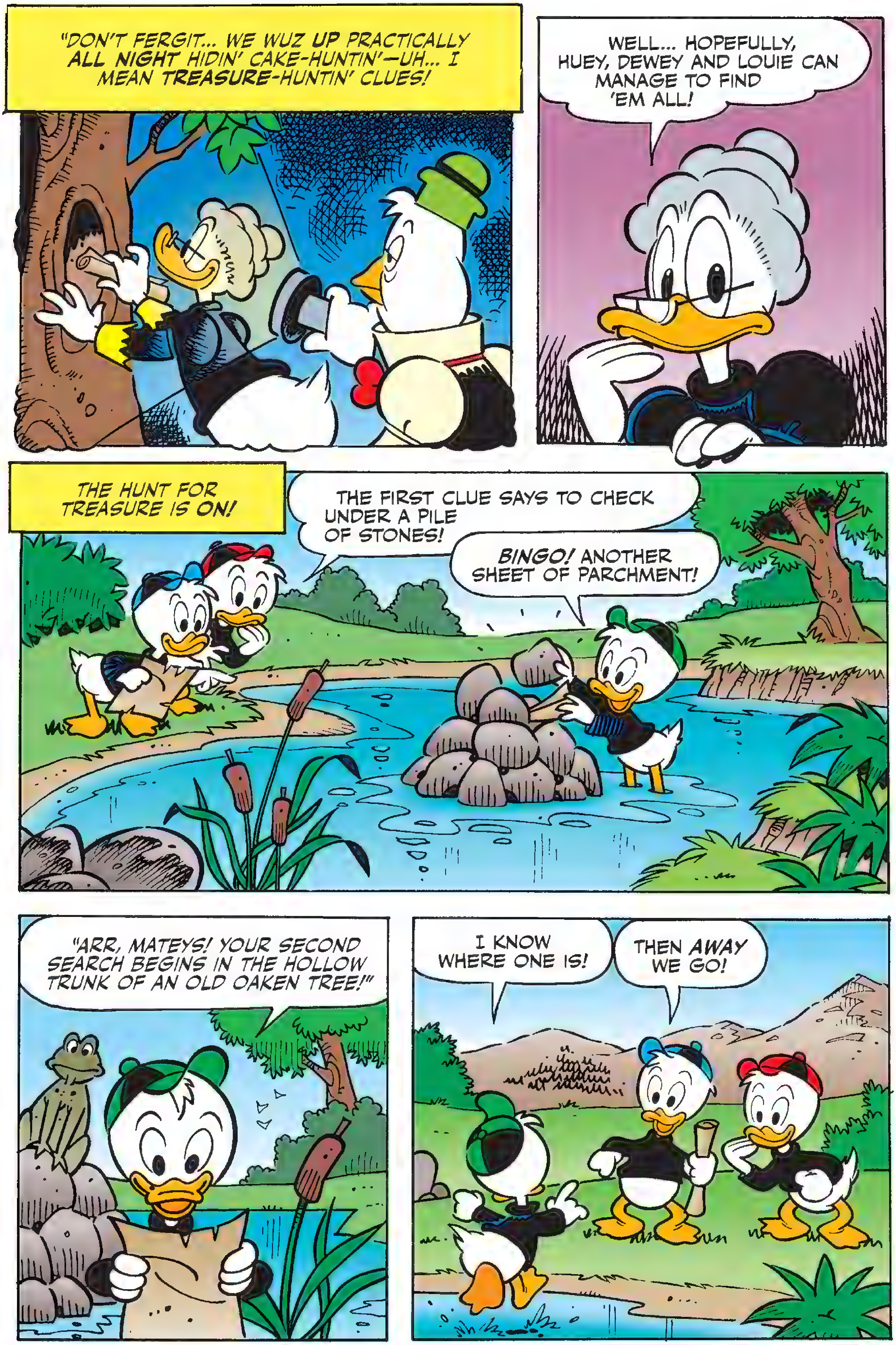

I'LL SEE ABOUT FETCHIN' IT TOMORROW! FOR NOW, **BEDTIME!**
OKEY-DOKE! G'NIGHT, GRANDMA!

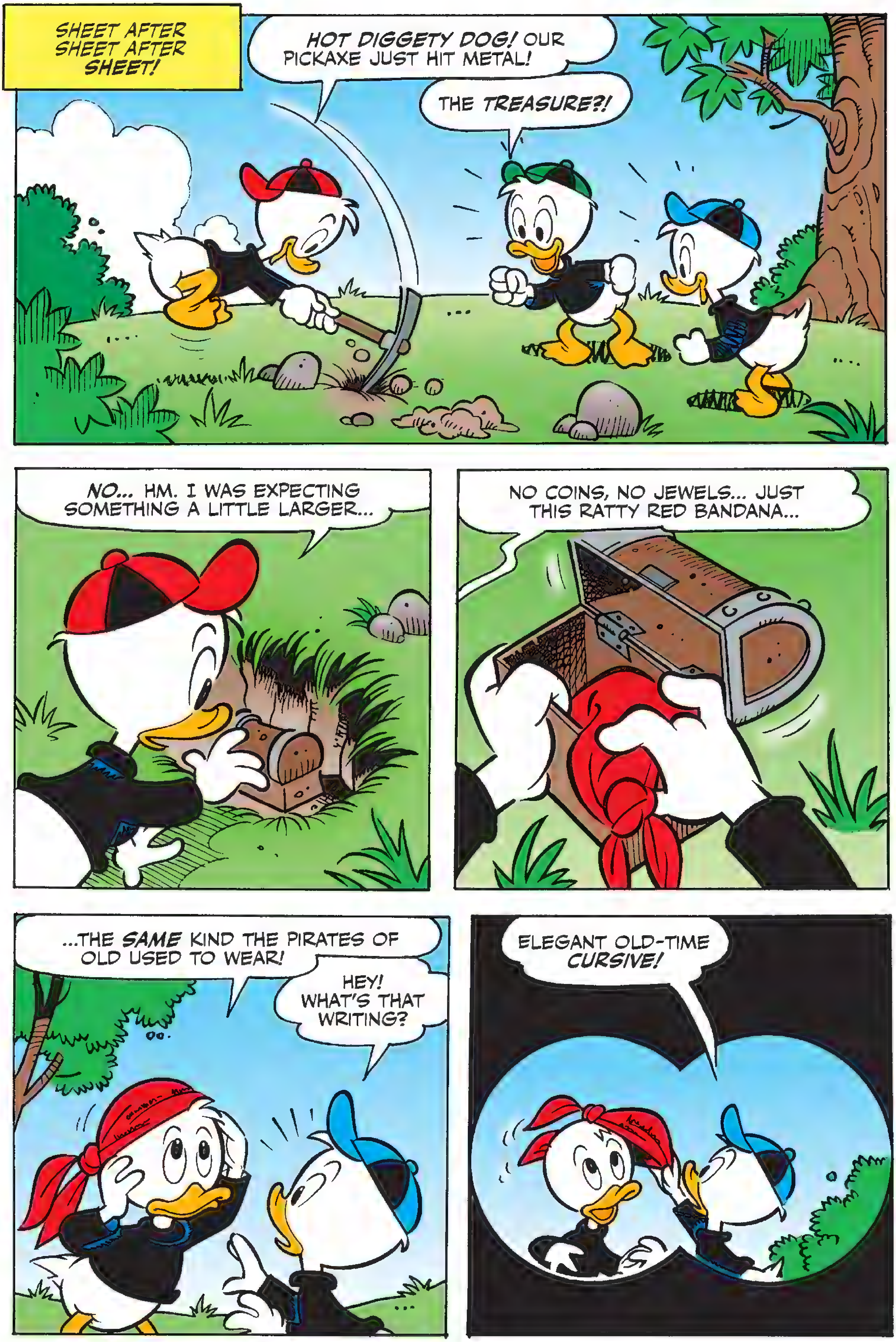

LATE INTO THE NIGHT!
GOSH, MUM! I DIDN'T KNOW YOU OWNED SUMP'N THAT ONCE BELONGED TA *BLONDBEARD!*
HONESTLY, GUS—I DUNNO IF IT WAS HIS OR NOT!
BUT I *CERTAINLY* KNOW A BUSTED CAPTAIN'S HAT WHEN I SEE ONE!
LOOKIT THAT! JUS' LIKE TH' ONES THOSE PIRATES USED TA SCUTTLE 'ROUND PORTS WITH!
SAAAY... I'LL BET *HIDIN'* A *TREASURE MAP* IN IT OUGHTA MAKE FOR SOME GREAT *FUN!*
THIS OL' YELLOWED PAPER OUGHTA MAKE A GREAT FAKE MAP!
WHAT'RE YOU UP TO?
GIVIN' MY GRANDKIDS A *GRAND DAY,* THAT'S WHAT!

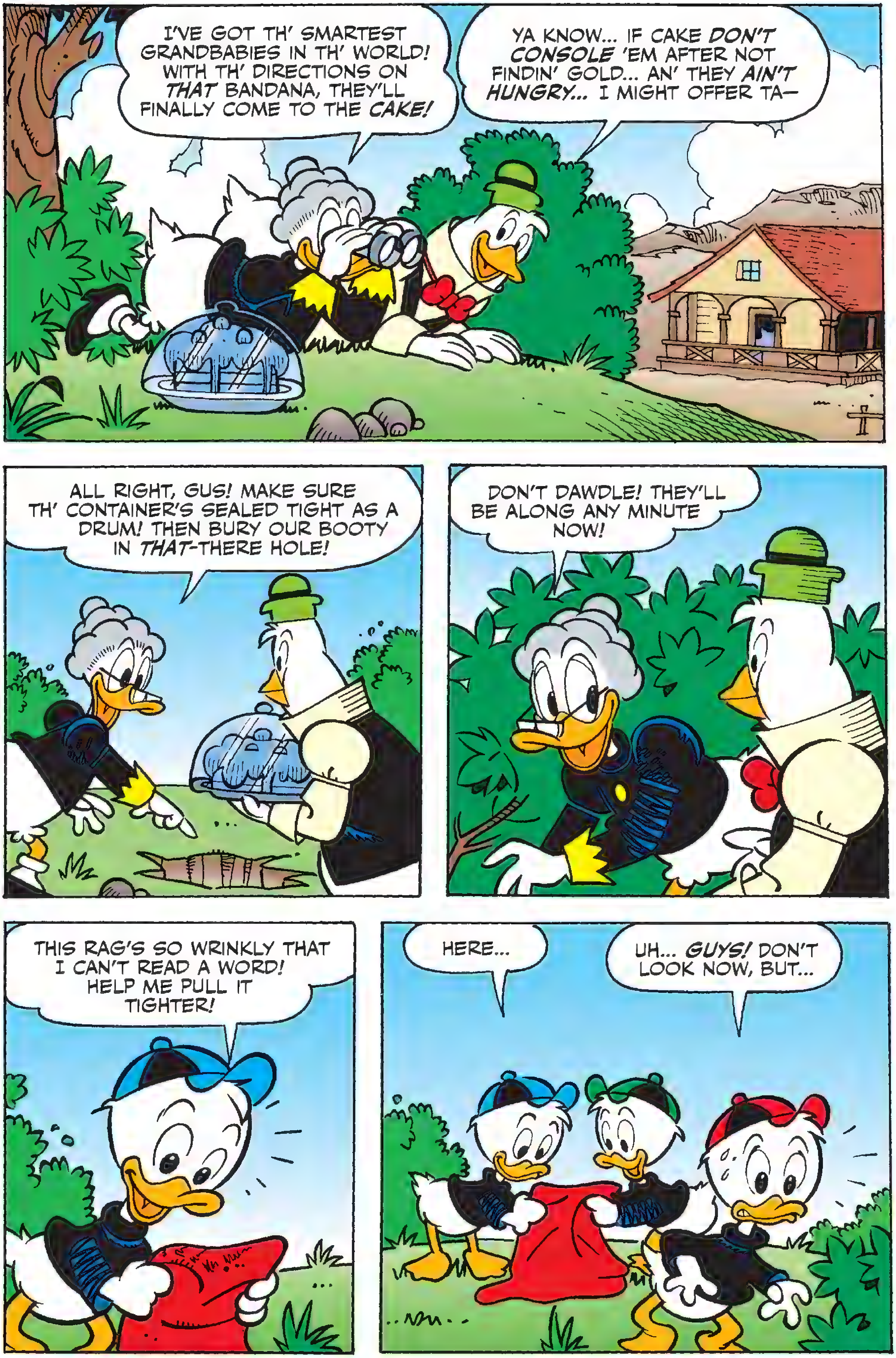

I'M GONNA SHOW MY BOYS TH' ROARIN' THRILL OF A TREASURE HUNT...
...AN' HAVE IT END IN THE WOODS AROUND OUR FARM!
SO THERE REALLY *IS* A TREASURE?!
OH, LAND SAKES, GUS—YOU KNOW IT'S JUST AN OL' LEGEND! BESIDES, I'VE GOT A *REAL* TREASURE RIGHT *HERE!* AN' THE KIDS WILL APPRECIATE *IT* WAY MORE THAN SOME SILLY GOLD COINS!
HERE WE GO! A PIPIN' HOT LAYER CAKE!
YUMM-M, WOTTA *SMELL!*
I'M MORE'N CERTAIN THIS'LL APPEASE 'EM ONCE THEY FIND OUT MY MAP'S A FAKE!

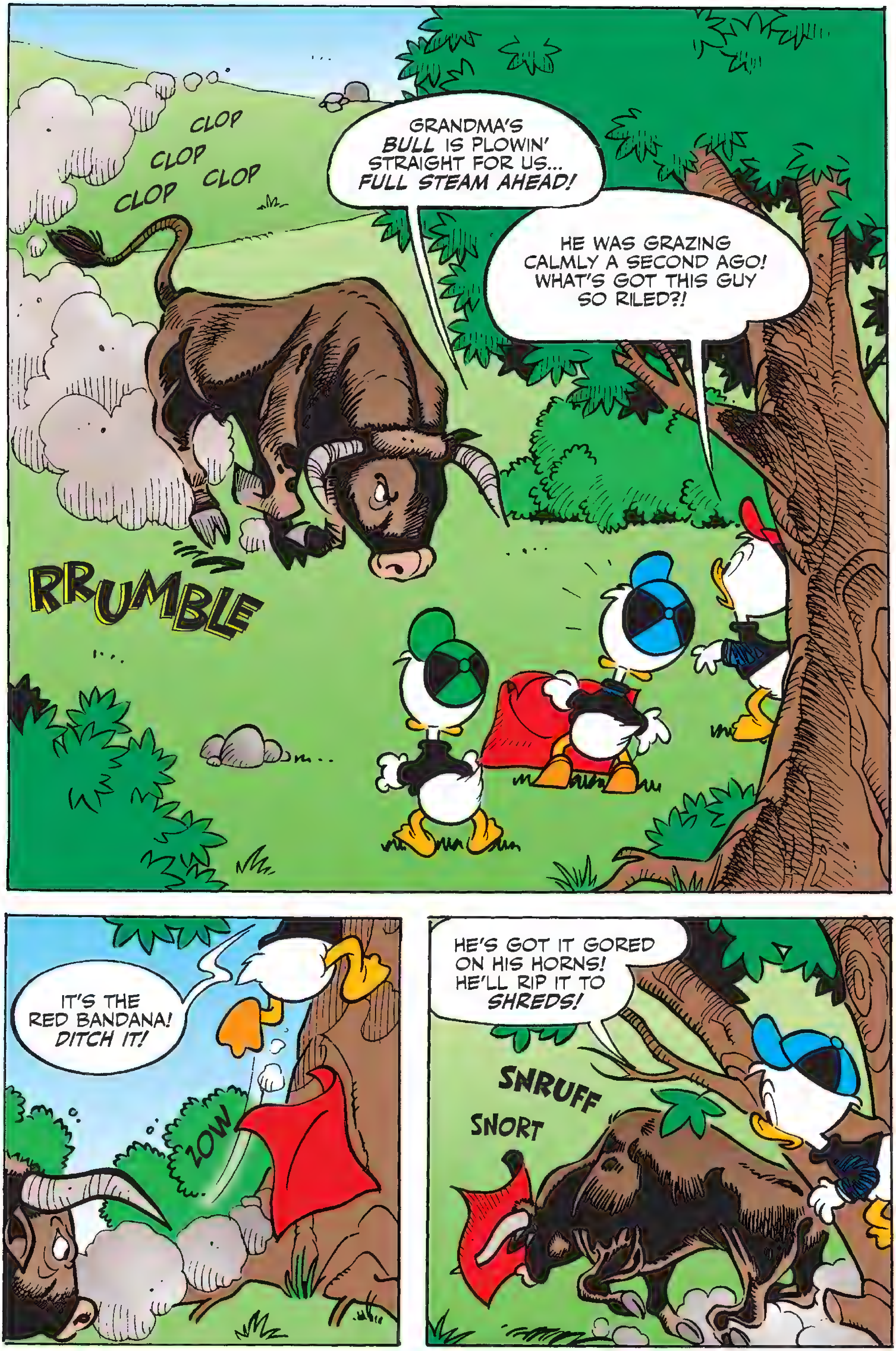

AND SO— MORNING'S ARRIVAL!
HUH... GRANDMA MUST'VE ALREADY GONE INTO TOWN!
SHE LEFT US SOME BREAKFAST, THOUGH!
AND AN OLD HAT! THIS MUST BE THAT POSSESSION OF BLONDBEARD'S GRANDMA WAS TALKING ABOUT!
CHECK ME OUT! I'M A PIRATE!
?
SWISH
CAREFUL, LOUIE! THIS PAPER WAS IN ITS FOLDS!
QUACKA-ROONIE...
Congrats, matey!
Now that ye've found me hat, let's see if ye can finds me treasure!
Yaaaarrr! -Dread Pirate Blondbeard

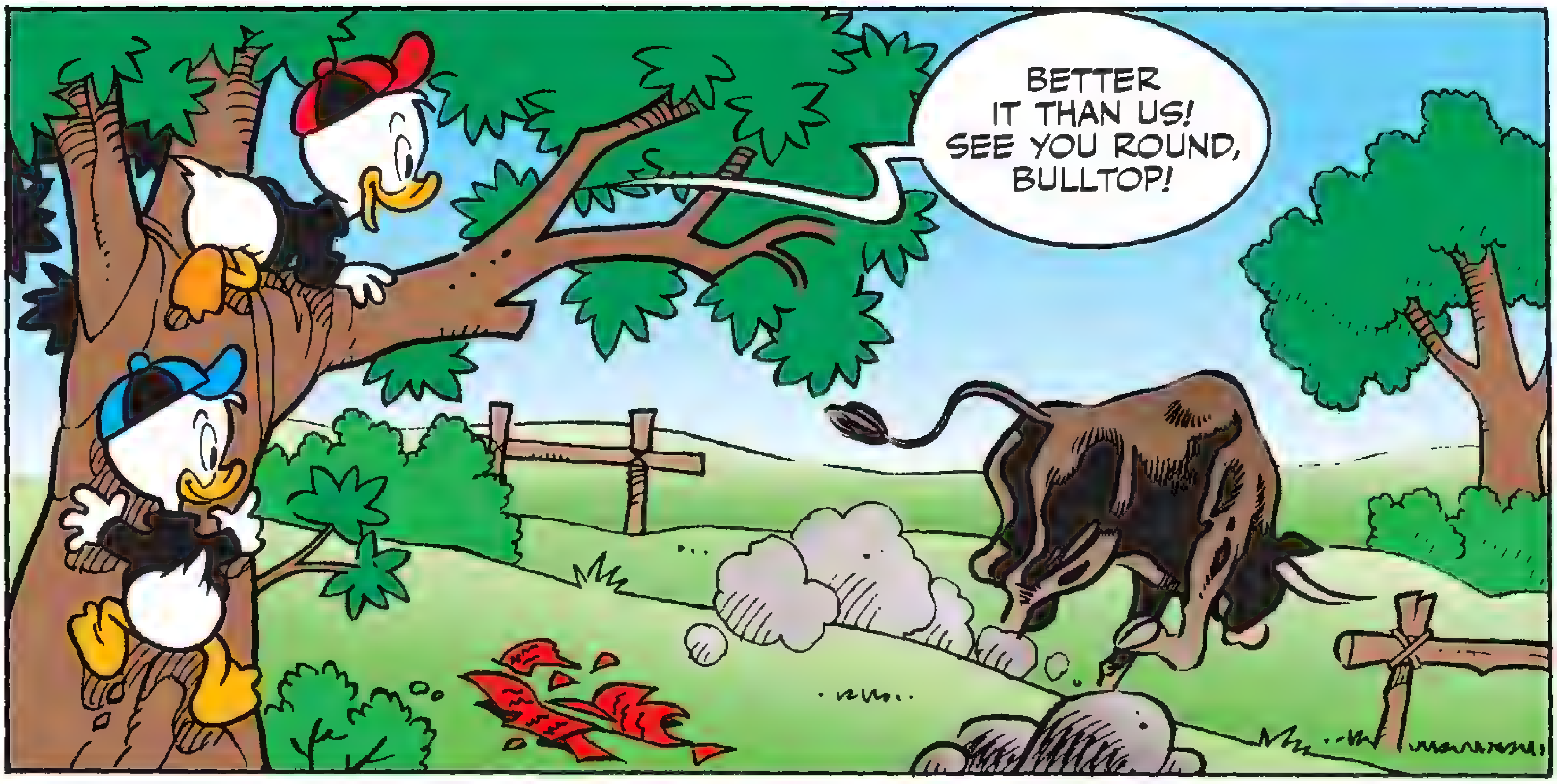

GRANDMA HAD A TREASURE MAP IN HER HOUSE ALL THIS TIME AND DIDN'T EVEN KNOW IT!
MEN, *WE'RE* GONNA FIND THAT TREASURE AND SURPRISE GRANDMA GOOD!
SWELL IDEA, HUEY!
ACCORDING TO THIS, THERE'S ANOTHER PARCHMENT HIDDEN BY THE OLD FROG POND! LET'S JET!
LOOKIT MY BOYS! FINALLY HAPPY! THERE AIN'T GONNA BE *ANY* O' THAT OL' COUNTRY MONOTONY TODAY!
Z
GUS! QUIT SNORIN', YA LAZY LUMP!
GZAWP?
NIK
NOK
BUMP
WHAZZAT, MUM? SORRY, GRANDMA. I WUZ BUSY CATCHIN' UP ON LOST SLEEP!
TAP
TAP
TAP

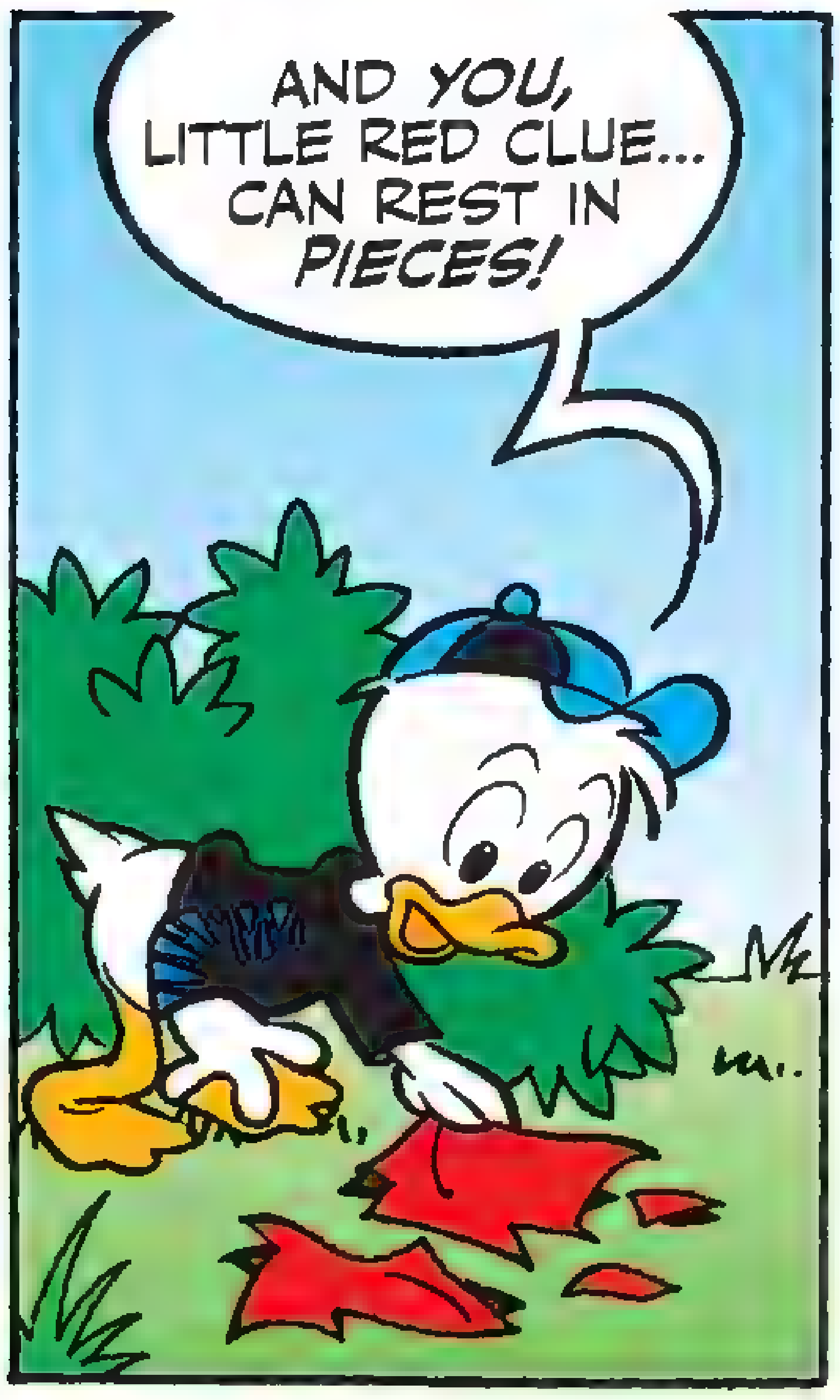

"DON'T FERGIT... WE WUZ UP PRACTICALLY ALL NIGHT HIDIN' CAKE-HUNTIN'—UH... I MEAN TREASURE-HUNTIN' CLUES!
WELL... HOPEFULLY, HUEY, DEWEY AND LOUIE CAN MANAGE TO FIND 'EM ALL!
THE HUNT FOR TREASURE IS ON!
THE FIRST CLUE SAYS TO CHECK UNDER A PILE OF STONES!
BINGO! ANOTHER SHEET OF PARCHMENT!
"ARR, MATEYS! YOUR SECOND SEARCH BEGINS IN THE HOLLOW TRUNK OF AN OLD OAKEN TREE!"
I KNOW WHERE ONE IS!
THEN AWAY WE GO!

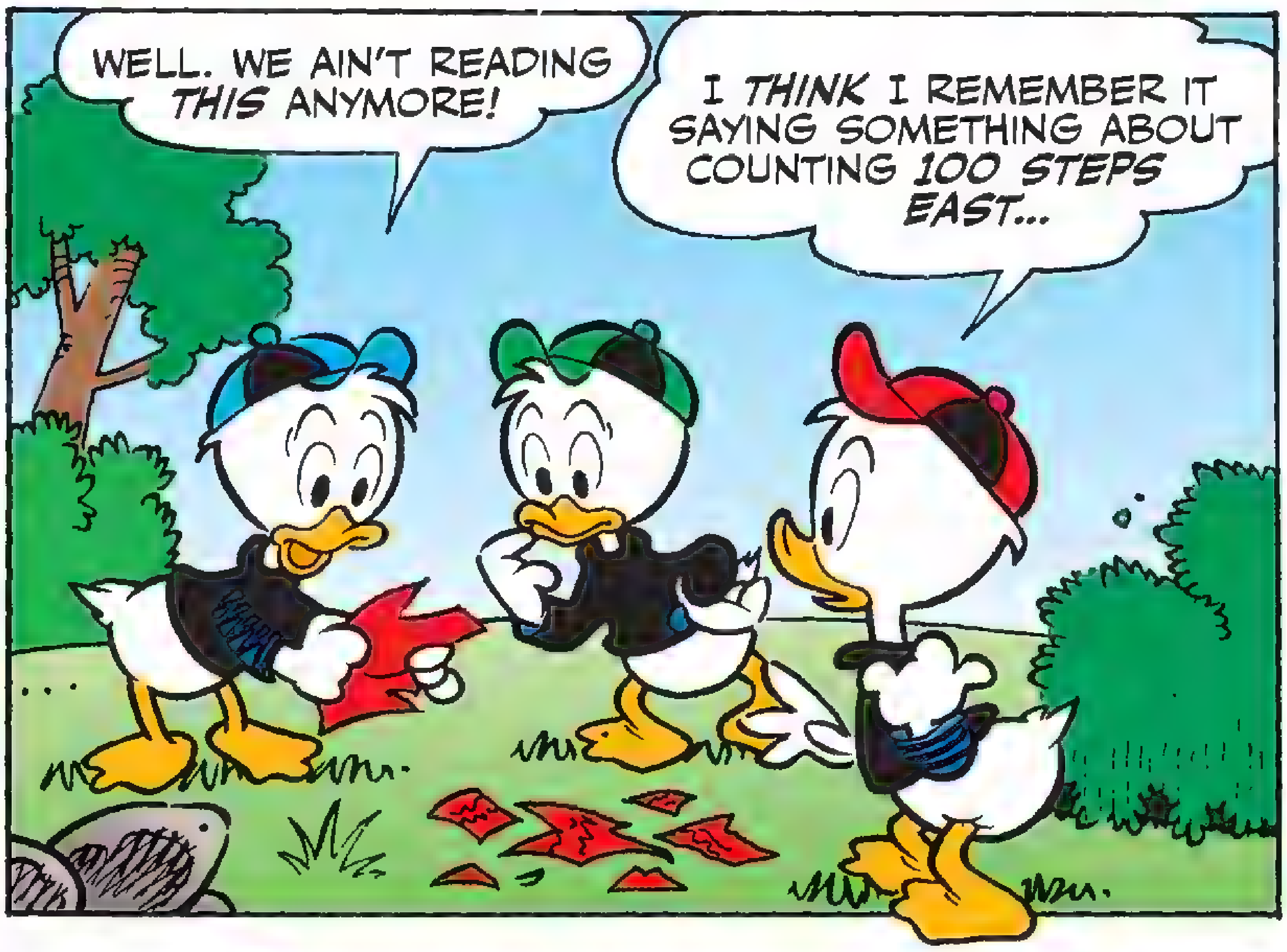

SHEET AFTER SHEET AFTER SHEET!
HOT DIGGETY DOG! OUR PICKAXE JUST HIT METAL!
THE TREASURE?!
NO... HM. I WAS EXPECTING SOMETHING A LITTLE LARGER...
NO COINS, NO JEWELS... JUST THIS RATTY RED BANDANA...
...THE SAME KIND THE PIRATES OF OLD USED TO WEAR!
HEY! WHAT'S THAT WRITING?
ELEGANT OLD-TIME CURSIVE!

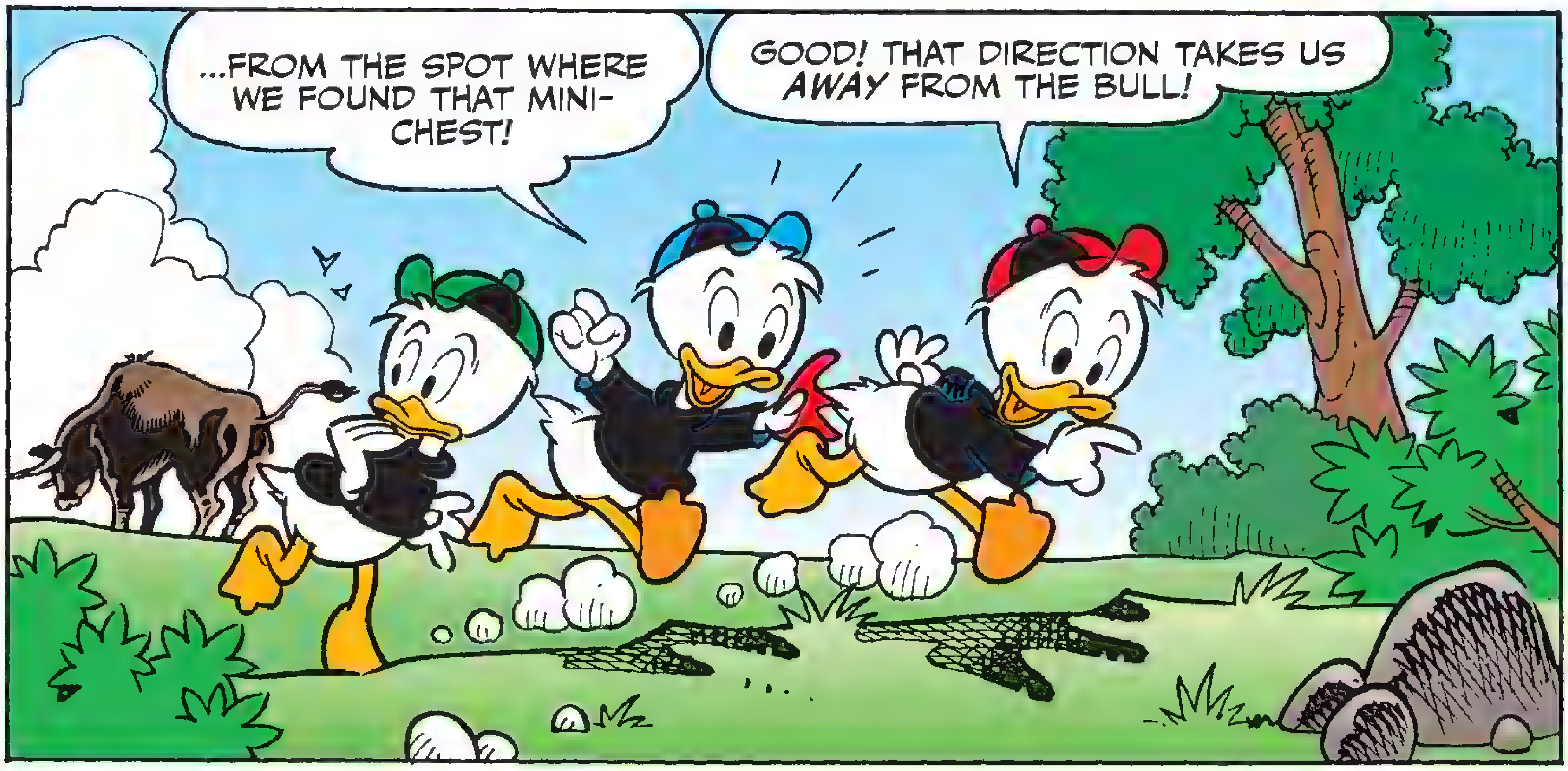

I'VE GOT TH' SMARTEST GRANDBABIES IN TH' WORLD! WITH TH' DIRECTIONS ON *THAT* BANDANA, THEY'LL FINALLY COME TO THE *CAKE!*
YA KNOW... IF CAKE *DON'T CONSOLE* 'EM AFTER NOT FINDIN' GOLD... AN' THEY *AIN'T HUNGRY...* I MIGHT OFFER TA—
ALL RIGHT, GUS! MAKE SURE TH' CONTAINER'S SEALED TIGHT AS A DRUM! THEN BURY OUR BOOTY IN *THAT*-THERE HOLE!
...
DON'T DAWDLE! THEY'LL BE ALONG ANY MINUTE NOW!
THIS RAG'S SO WRINKLY THAT I CAN'T READ A WORD! HELP ME PULL IT TIGHTER!
...
HERE...
UH... *GUYS!* DON'T LOOK NOW, BUT...

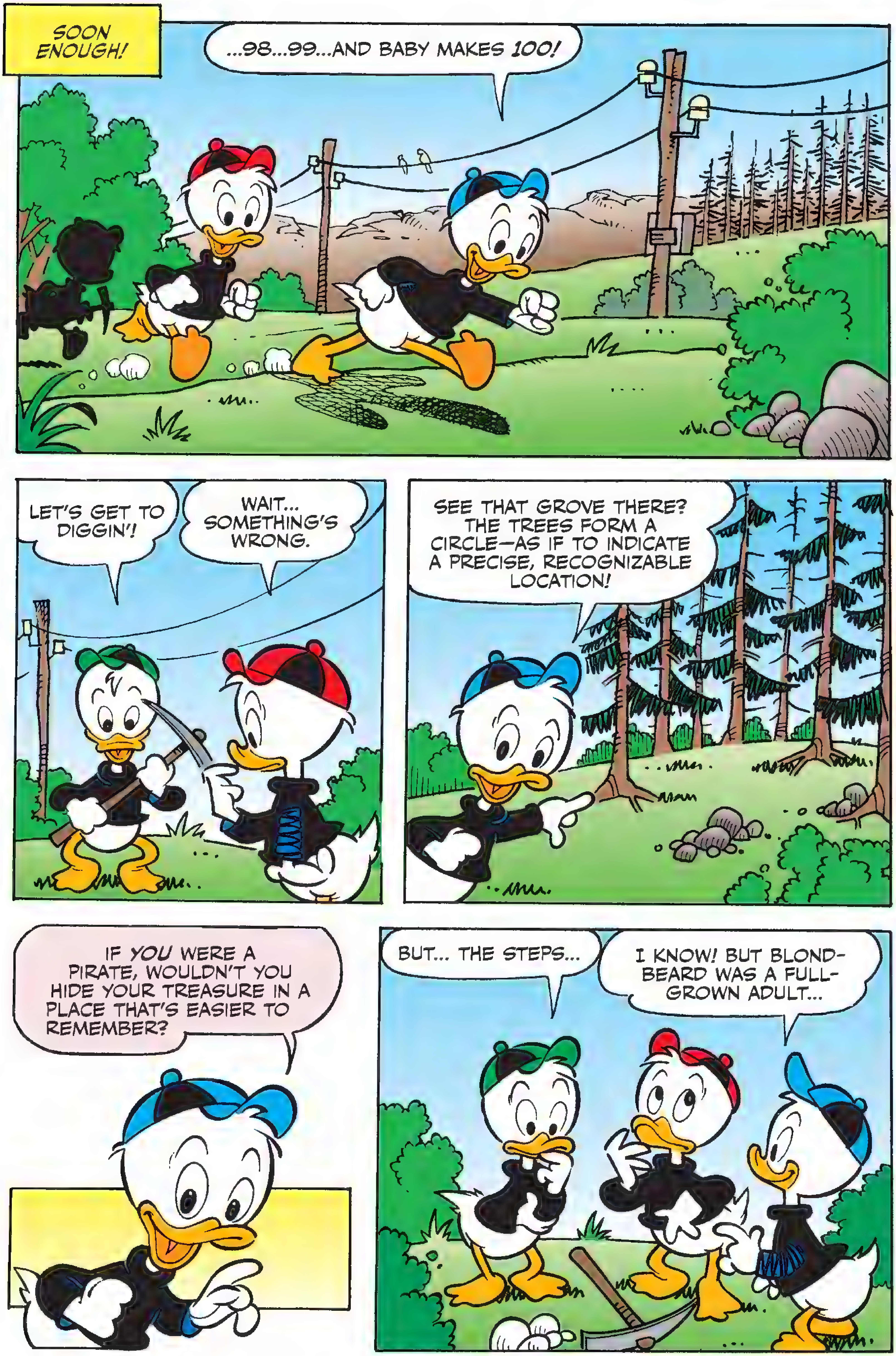

CLOP CLOP CLOP CLOP
GRANDMA'S *BULL* IS PLOWIN' STRAIGHT FOR US... *FULL STEAM AHEAD!*
HE WAS GRAZING CALMLY A SECOND AGO! WHAT'S GOT THIS GUY SO RILED?!
RRUMBLE
IT'S THE RED BANDANA! *DITCH IT!*
ZOW
HE'S GOT IT GORED ON HIS HORNS! HE'LL RIP IT TO *SHREDS!*
SNRUFF
SNORT

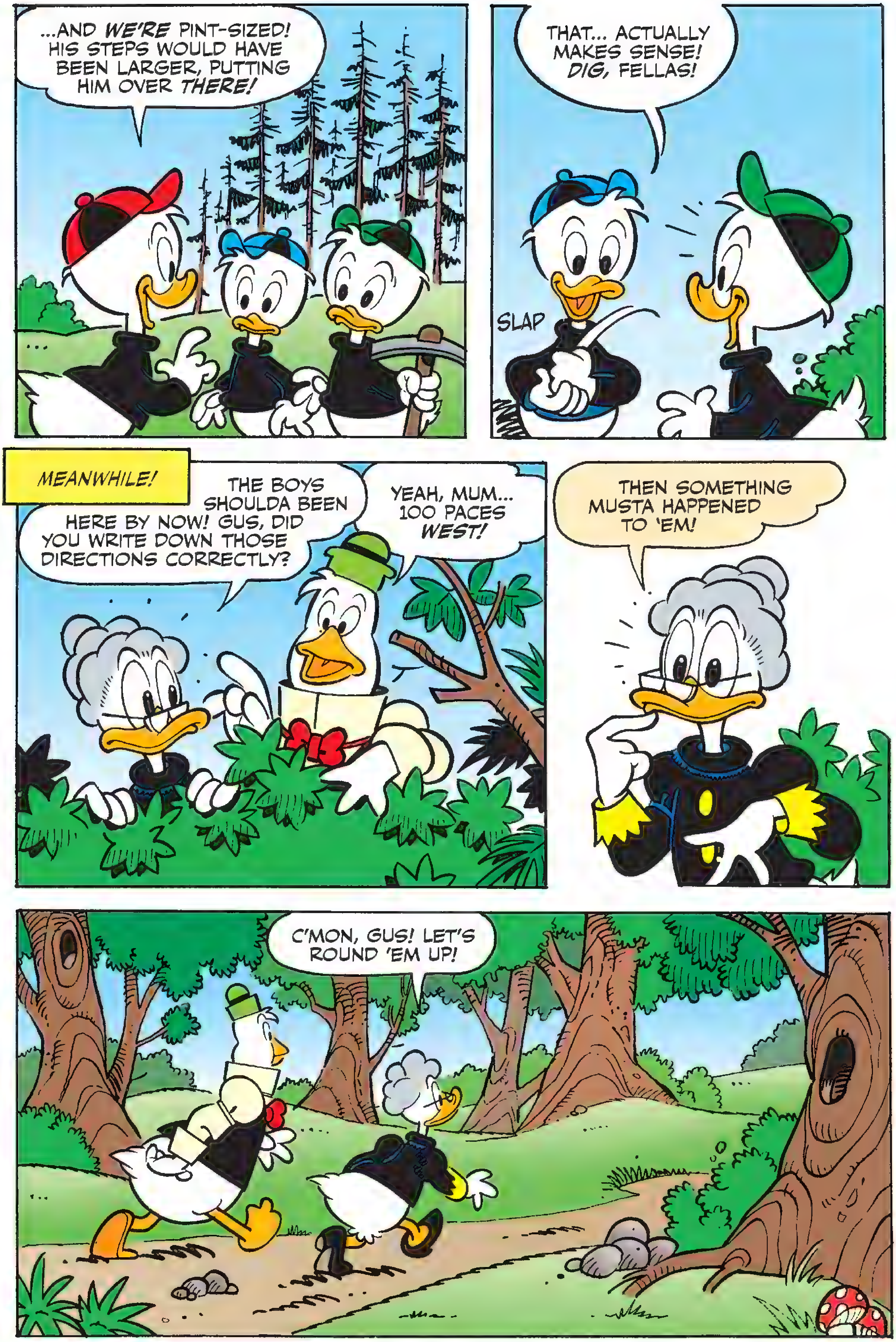

BETTER IT THAN US! SEE YOU ROUND, BULLTOP!

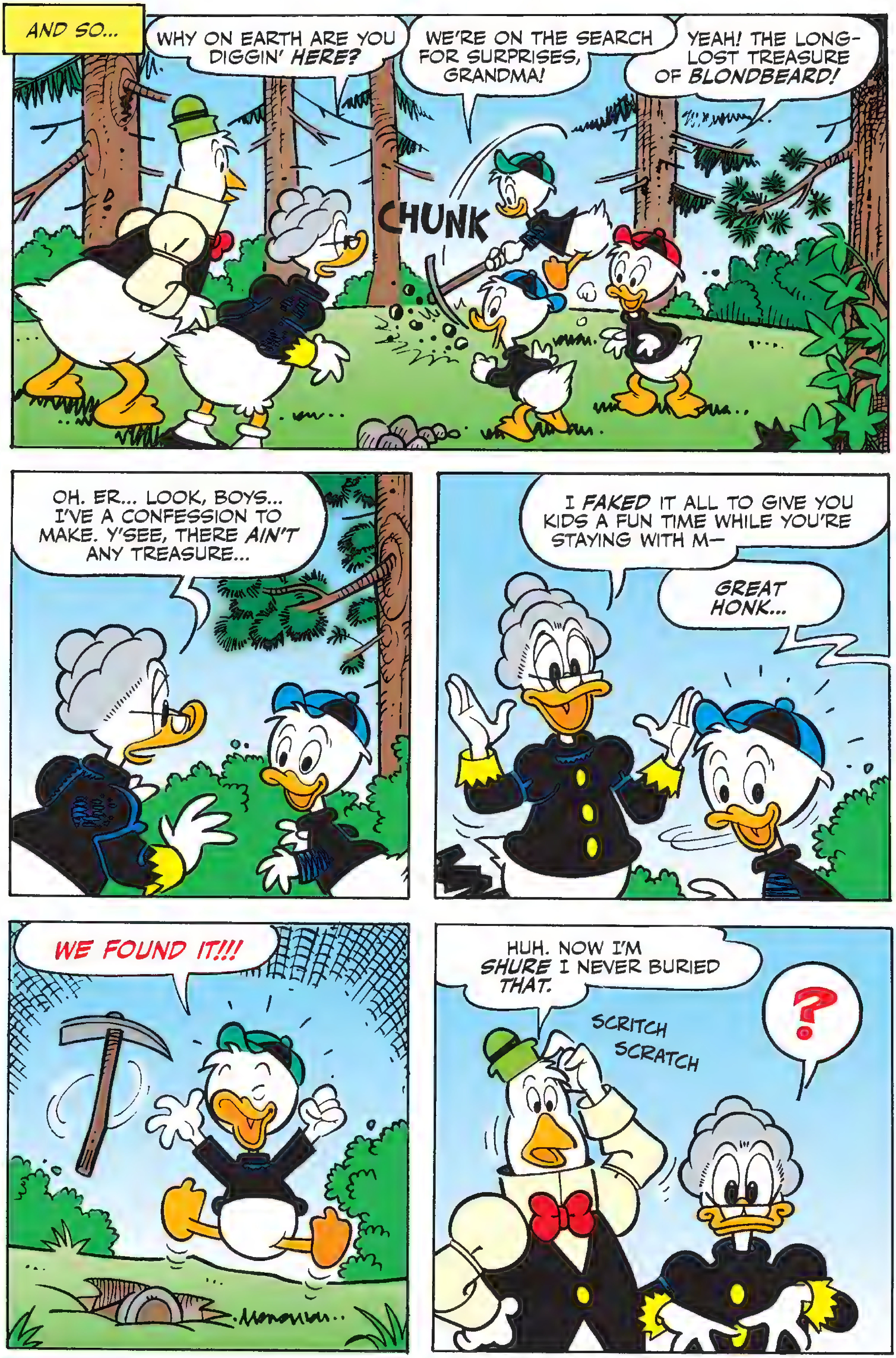

AND *YOU,* LITTLE RED CLUE... CAN REST IN *PIECES!*

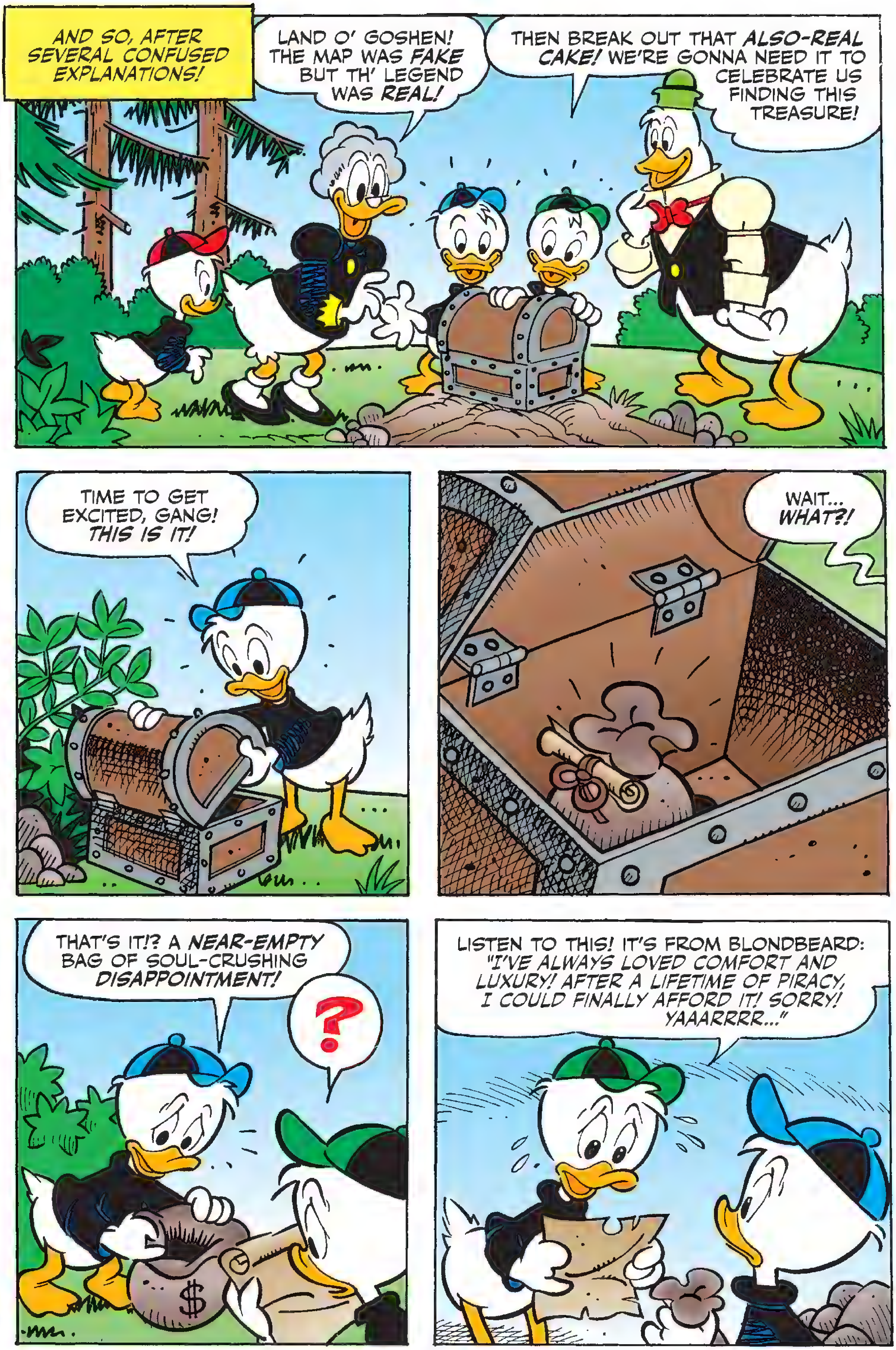

WELL. WE AIN'T READING *THIS* ANYMORE!
I *THINK* I REMEMBER IT SAYING SOMETHING ABOUT COUNTING *100 STEPS EAST...*

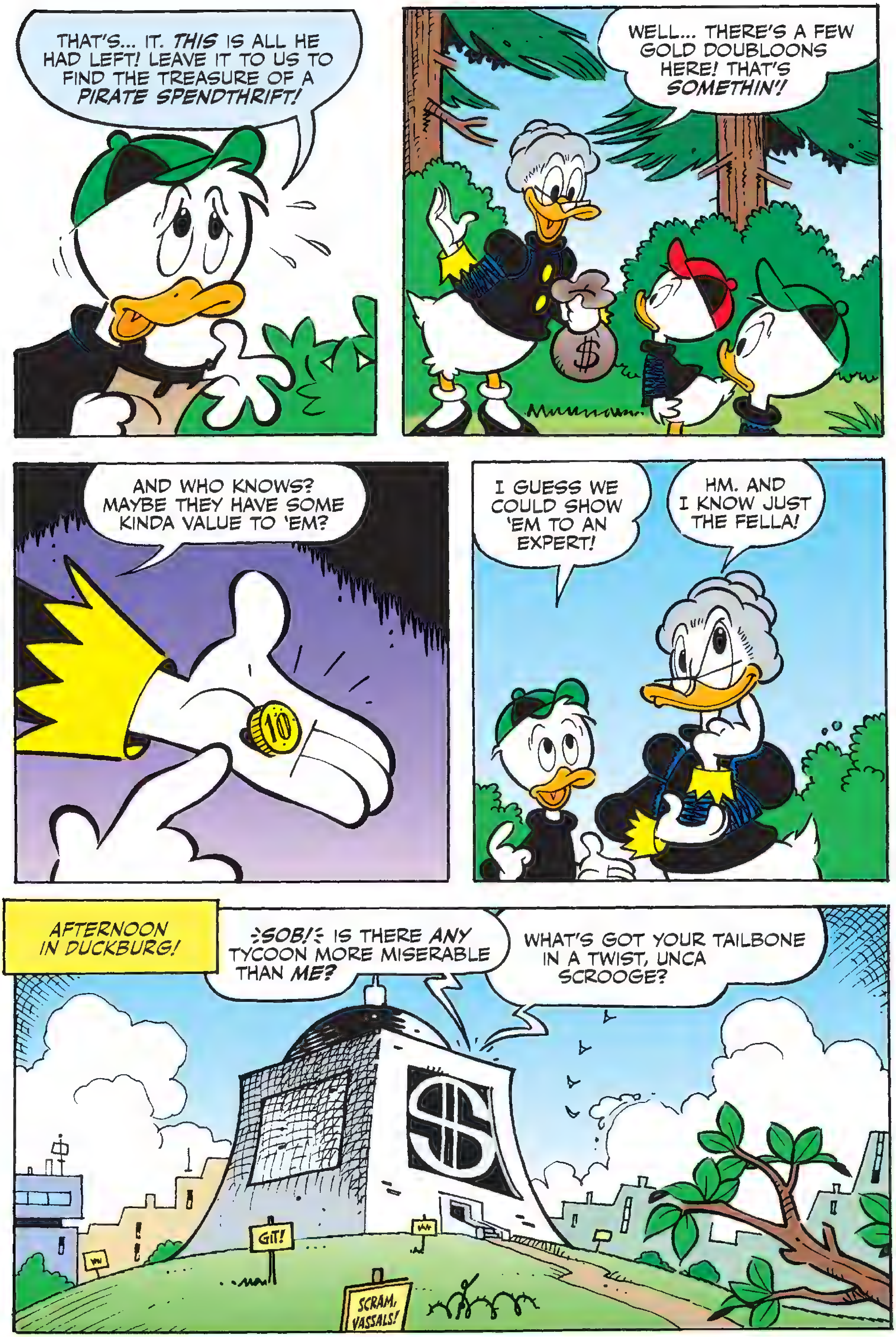

...FROM THE SPOT WHERE WE FOUND THAT MINI-CHEST!
GOOD! THAT DIRECTION TAKES US *AWAY* FROM THE BULL!

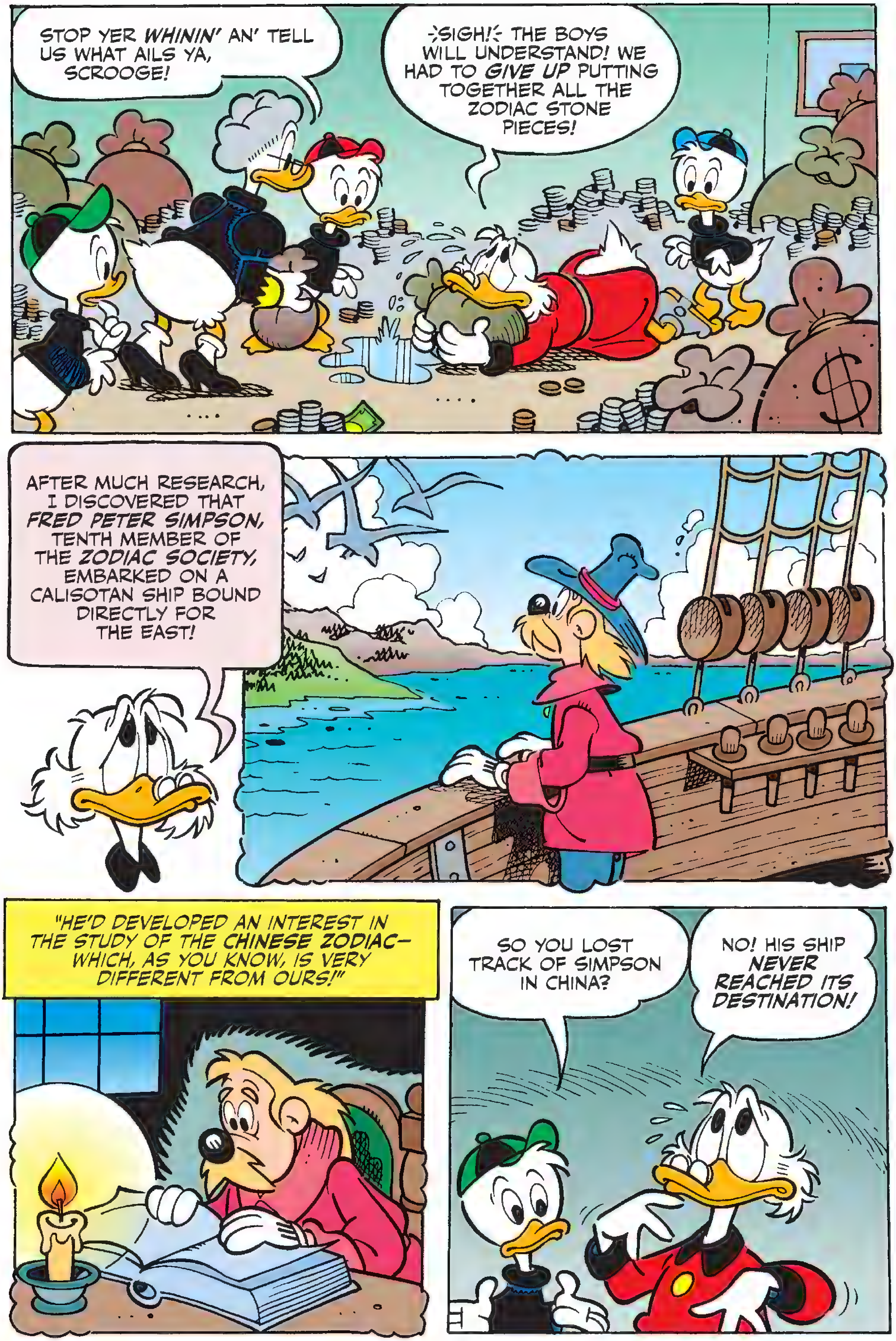

SOON ENOUGH!
...98...99...AND BABY MAKES *100!*
LET'S GET TO DIGGIN'!
WAIT... SOMETHING'S WRONG.
SEE THAT GROVE THERE? THE TREES FORM A CIRCLE—AS IF TO INDICATE A PRECISE, RECOGNIZABLE LOCATION!
IF *YOU* WERE A PIRATE, WOULDN'T YOU HIDE YOUR TREASURE IN A PLACE THAT'S EASIER TO REMEMBER?
BUT... THE STEPS...
I KNOW! BUT BLONDBEARD WAS A FULL-GROWN ADULT...

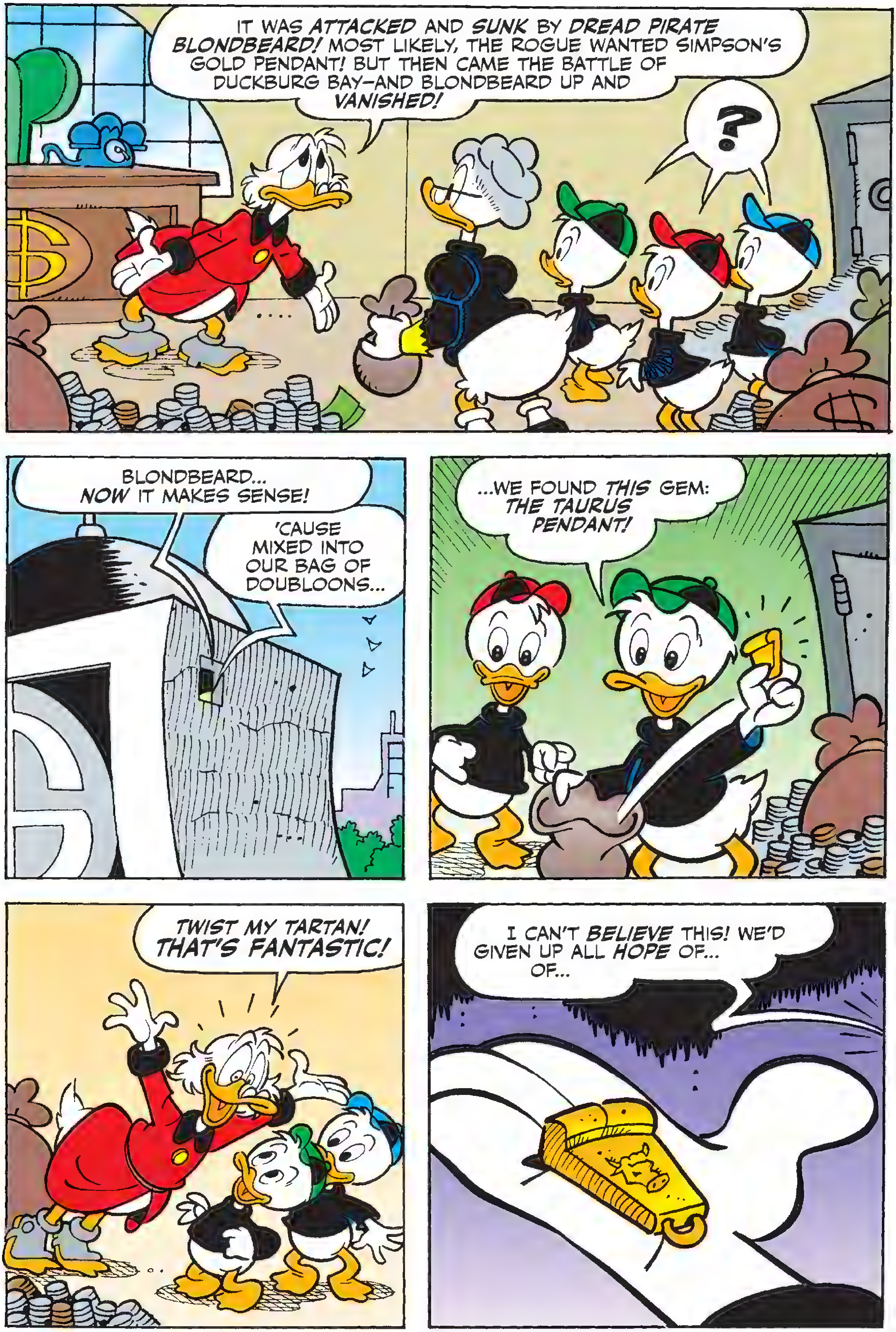

...AND *WE'RE* PINT-SIZED! HIS STEPS WOULD HAVE BEEN LARGER, PUTTING HIM OVER *THERE!*
THAT... ACTUALLY MAKES SENSE! *DIG,* FELLAS!
SLAP
MEANWHILE!
THE BOYS SHOULDA BEEN HERE BY NOW! GUS, DID YOU WRITE DOWN THOSE DIRECTIONS CORRECTLY?
YEAH, MUM... 100 PACES *WEST!*
THEN SOMETHING MUSTA HAPPENED TO 'EM!
C'MON, GUS! LET'S ROUND 'EM UP!

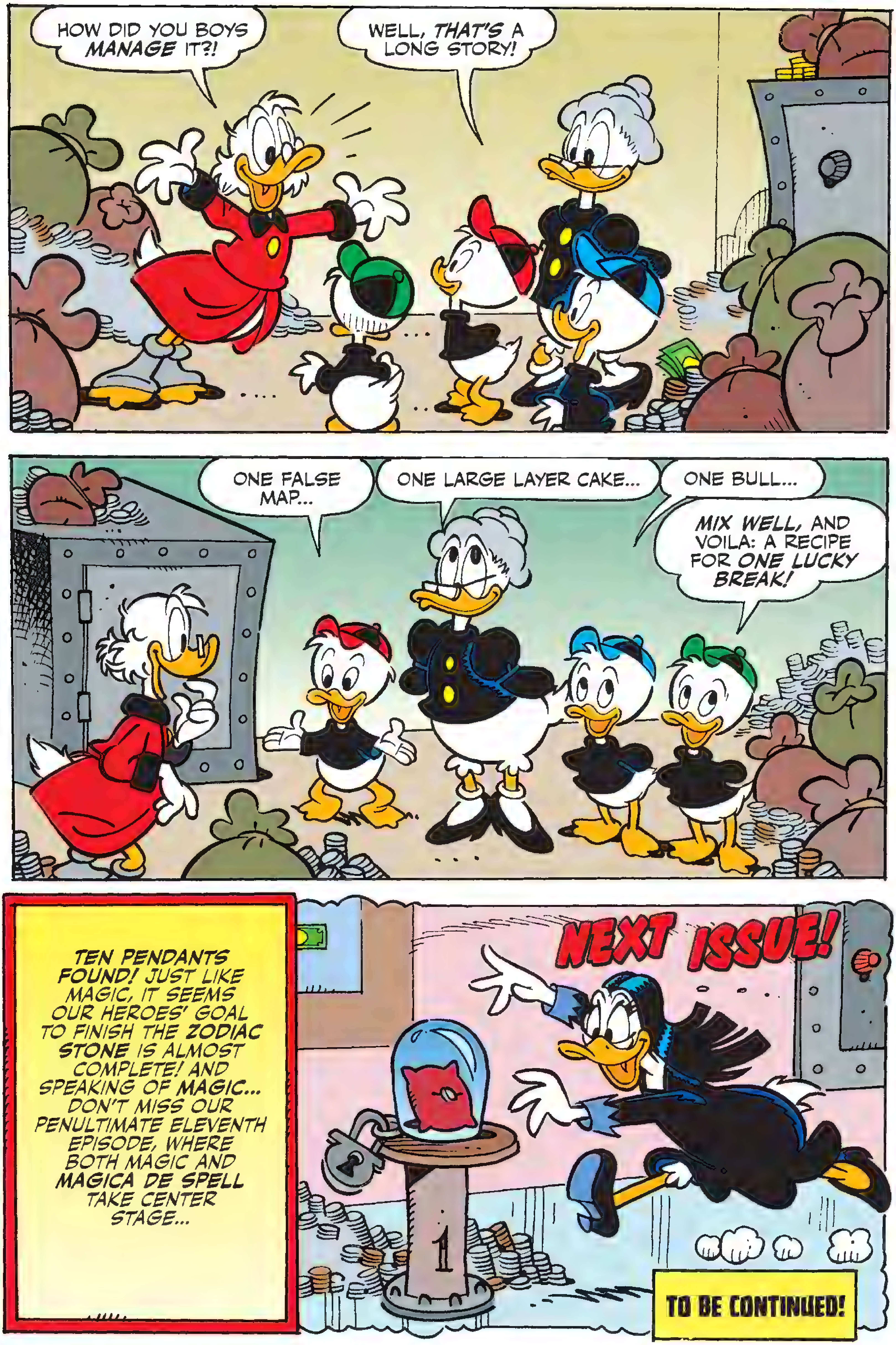

AND SO...
WHY ON EARTH ARE YOU DIGGIN' *HERE?*
WE'RE ON THE SEARCH FOR SURPRISES, GRANDMA!
YEAH! THE LONG-LOST TREASURE OF *BLONDBEARD!*
CHUNK
OH. ER... LOOK, BOYS... I'VE A CONFESSION TO MAKE. Y'SEE, THERE *AIN'T* ANY TREASURE...
I *FAKED* IT ALL TO GIVE YOU KIDS A FUN TIME WHILE YOU'RE STAYING WITH M—
GREAT HONK...
WE FOUND IT!!!
HUH. NOW I'M *SHURE* I NEVER BURIED *THAT.*
SCRITCH
SCRATCH
?

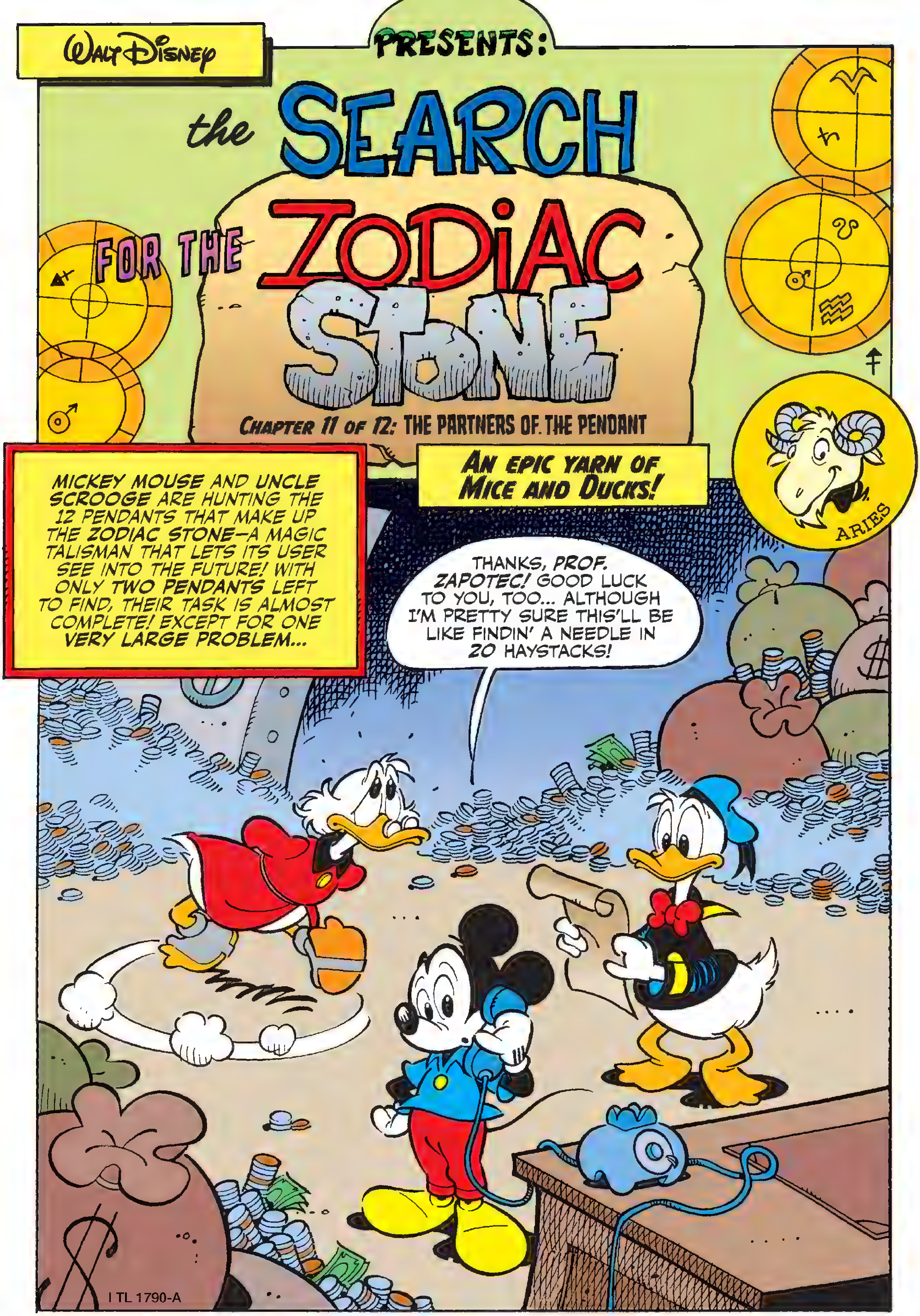

AND SO, AFTER SEVERAL CONFUSED EXPLANATIONS!
LAND O' GOSHEN! THE MAP WAS *FAKE* BUT TH' LEGEND WAS *REAL!*
THEN BREAK OUT THAT *ALSO-REAL CAKE!* WE'RE GONNA NEED IT TO CELEBRATE US FINDING THIS TREASURE!
TIME TO GET EXCITED, GANG! *THIS IS IT!*
WAIT... *WHAT?!*
THAT'S IT!? A *NEAR-EMPTY* BAG OF SOUL-CRUSHING *DISAPPOINTMENT!*
?
LISTEN TO THIS! IT'S FROM BLONDBEARD: *"I'VE ALWAYS LOVED COMFORT AND LUXURY! AFTER A LIFETIME OF PIRACY, I COULD FINALLY AFFORD IT! SORRY! YAAARRRR..."*
$


THAT'S... IT. *THIS* IS ALL HE HAD LEFT! LEAVE IT TO US TO FIND THE TREASURE OF A *PIRATE SPENDTHRIFT!*
WELL... THERE'S A FEW GOLD DOUBLOONS HERE! THAT'S *SOMETHIN'!*
$
AND WHO KNOWS? MAYBE THEY HAVE SOME KINDA VALUE TO 'EM?
10
I GUESS WE COULD SHOW 'EM TO AN EXPERT!
HM. AND I KNOW JUST THE FELLA!
AFTERNOON IN DUCKBURG!
SOB! IS THERE *ANY* TYCOON MORE MISERABLE THAN *ME?*
WHAT'S GOT YOUR TAILBONE IN A TWIST, UNCA SCROOGE?
$
GIT!
SCRAM, VASSALS!


STOP YER *WHININ'* AN' TELL US WHAT AILS YA, SCROOGE!
-SIGH!- THE BOYS WILL UNDERSTAND! WE HAD TO *GIVE UP* PUTTING TOGETHER ALL THE ZODIAC STONE PIECES!
AFTER MUCH RESEARCH, I DISCOVERED THAT *FRED PETER SIMPSON,* TENTH MEMBER OF THE *ZODIAC SOCIETY,* EMBARKED ON A CALISOTAN SHIP BOUND DIRECTLY FOR THE EAST!
"HE'D DEVELOPED AN INTEREST IN THE STUDY OF THE **CHINESE ZODIAC***— WHICH, AS YOU KNOW, IS VERY DIFFERENT FROM OURS!"*
SO YOU LOST TRACK OF SIMPSON IN CHINA?
NO! HIS SHIP ***NEVER REACHED*** ITS ***DESTINATION!***


IT WAS *ATTACKED* AND *SUNK* BY *DREAD PIRATE BLONDBEARD!* MOST LIKELY, THE ROGUE WANTED SIMPSON'S GOLD PENDANT! BUT THEN CAME THE BATTLE OF DUCKBURG BAY—AND BLONDBEARD UP AND *VANISHED!*
?
BLONDBEARD... *NOW* IT MAKES SENSE!
'CAUSE MIXED INTO OUR BAG OF DOUBLOONS...
...WE FOUND *THIS* GEM: *THE TAURUS PENDANT!*
TWIST MY TARTAN! THAT'S FANTASTIC!
I CAN'T *BELIEVE* THIS! WE'D GIVEN UP ALL *HOPE* OF... OF...


HOW DID YOU BOYS *MANAGE* IT?!
WELL, *THAT'S* A LONG STORY!
ONE FALSE MAP...
ONE LARGE LAYER CAKE...
ONE BULL...
MIX WELL, AND VOILA: A RECIPE FOR *ONE LUCKY BREAK!*
TEN PENDANTS FOUND! JUST LIKE *MAGIC*, IT SEEMS OUR HEROES' GOAL TO FINISH THE *ZODIAC STONE* IS ALMOST COMPLETE! AND SPEAKING OF *MAGIC*... DON'T MISS OUR PENULTIMATE ELEVENTH EPISODE, WHERE BOTH MAGIC AND *MAGICA DE SPELL* TAKE CENTER STAGE...
NEXT ISSUE!
1
TO BE CONTINUED!


WALT DISNEY
PRESENTS:
the SEARCH FOR THE ZODIAC STONE
CHAPTER 11 OF 12: THE PARTNERS OF THE PENDANT
AN EPIC YARN OF MICE AND DUCKS!
ARIES
MICKEY MOUSE AND UNCLE SCROOGE ARE HUNTING THE 12 PENDANTS THAT MAKE UP THE ZODIAC STONE—A MAGIC TALISMAN THAT LETS ITS USER SEE INTO THE FUTURE! WITH ONLY TWO PENDANTS LEFT TO FIND, THEIR TASK IS ALMOST COMPLETE! EXCEPT FOR ONE VERY LARGE PROBLEM...
THANKS, PROF. ZAPOTEC! GOOD LUCK TO YOU, TOO... ALTHOUGH I'M PRETTY SURE THIS'LL BE LIKE FINDIN' A NEEDLE IN 20 HAYSTACKS!
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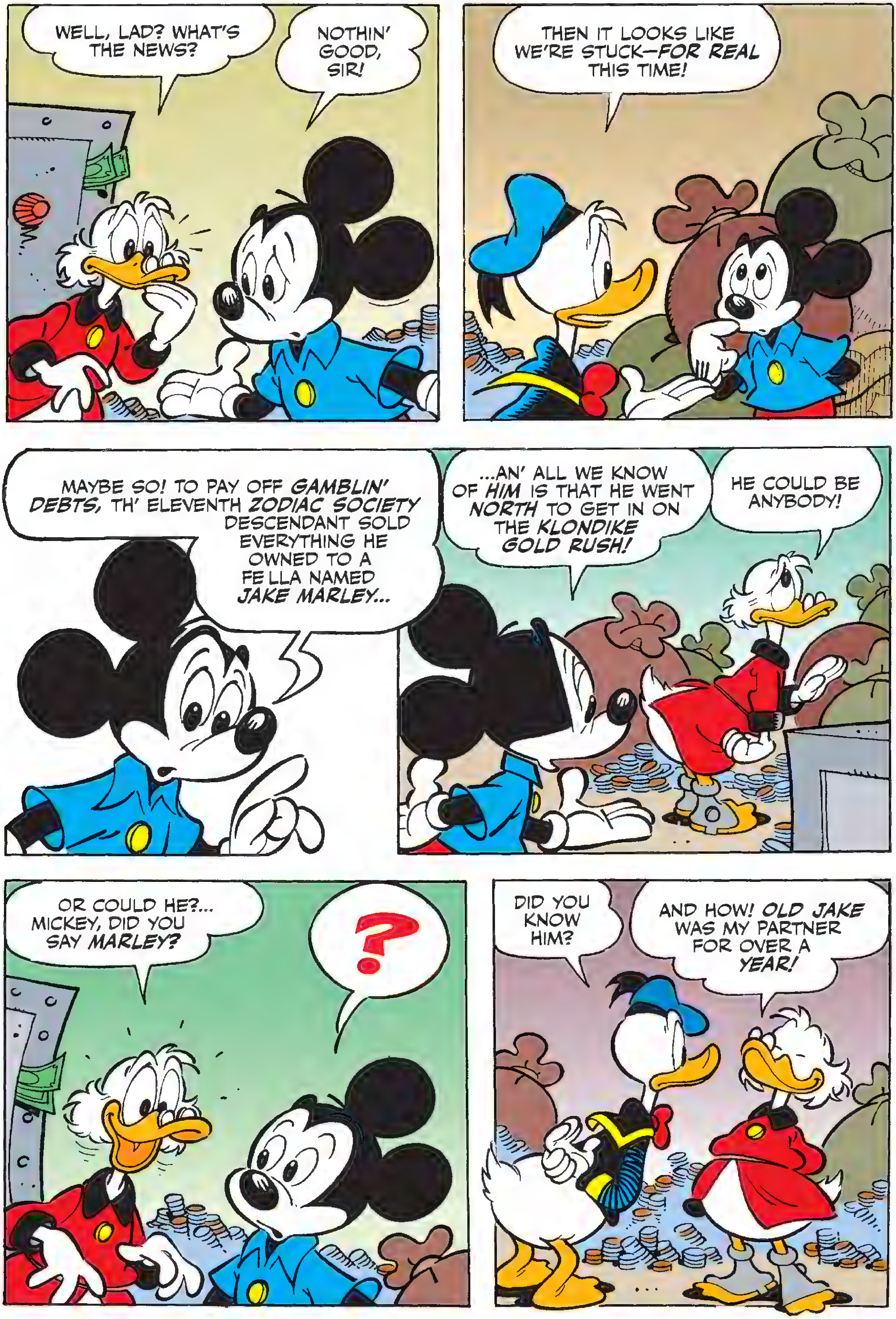
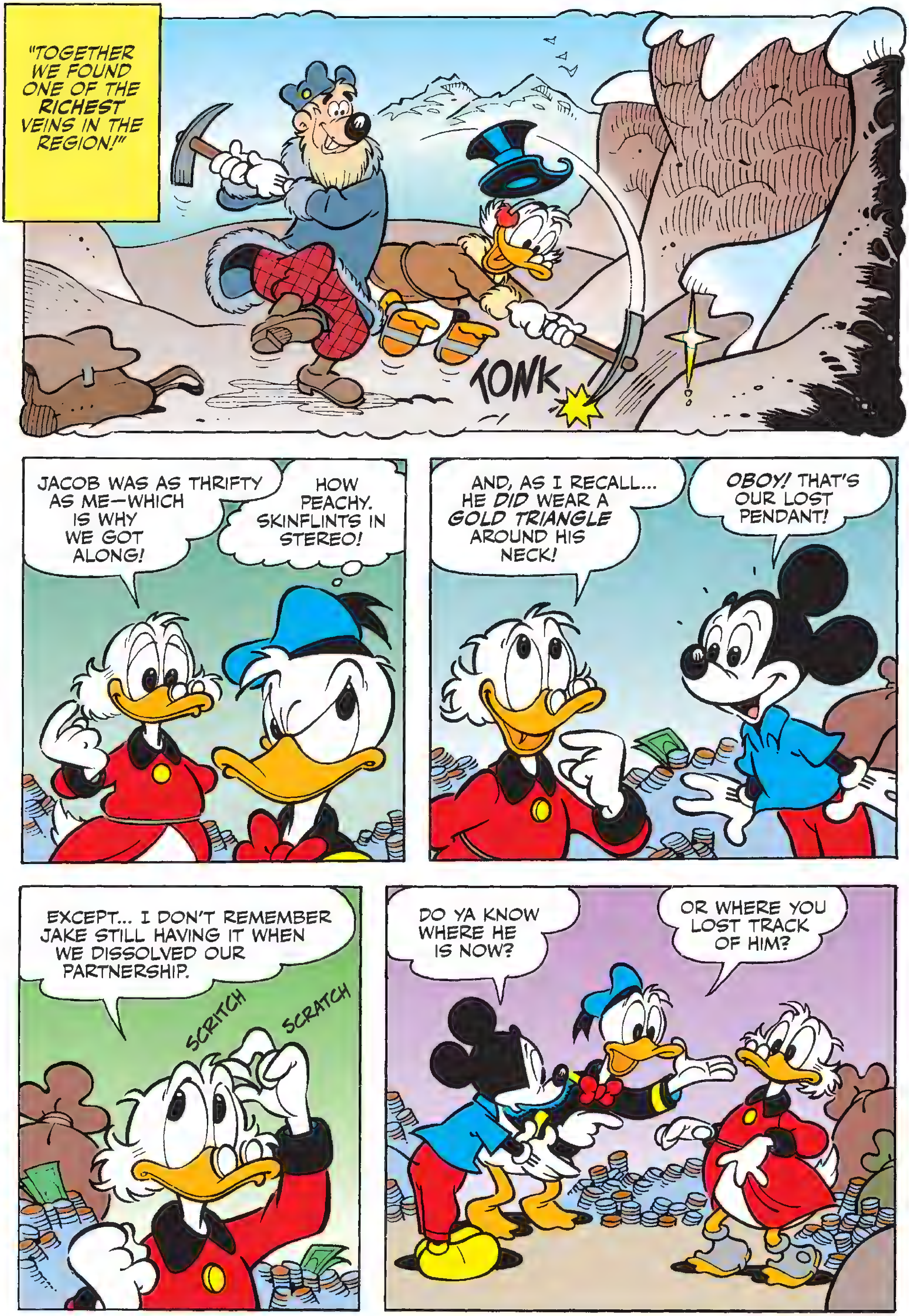
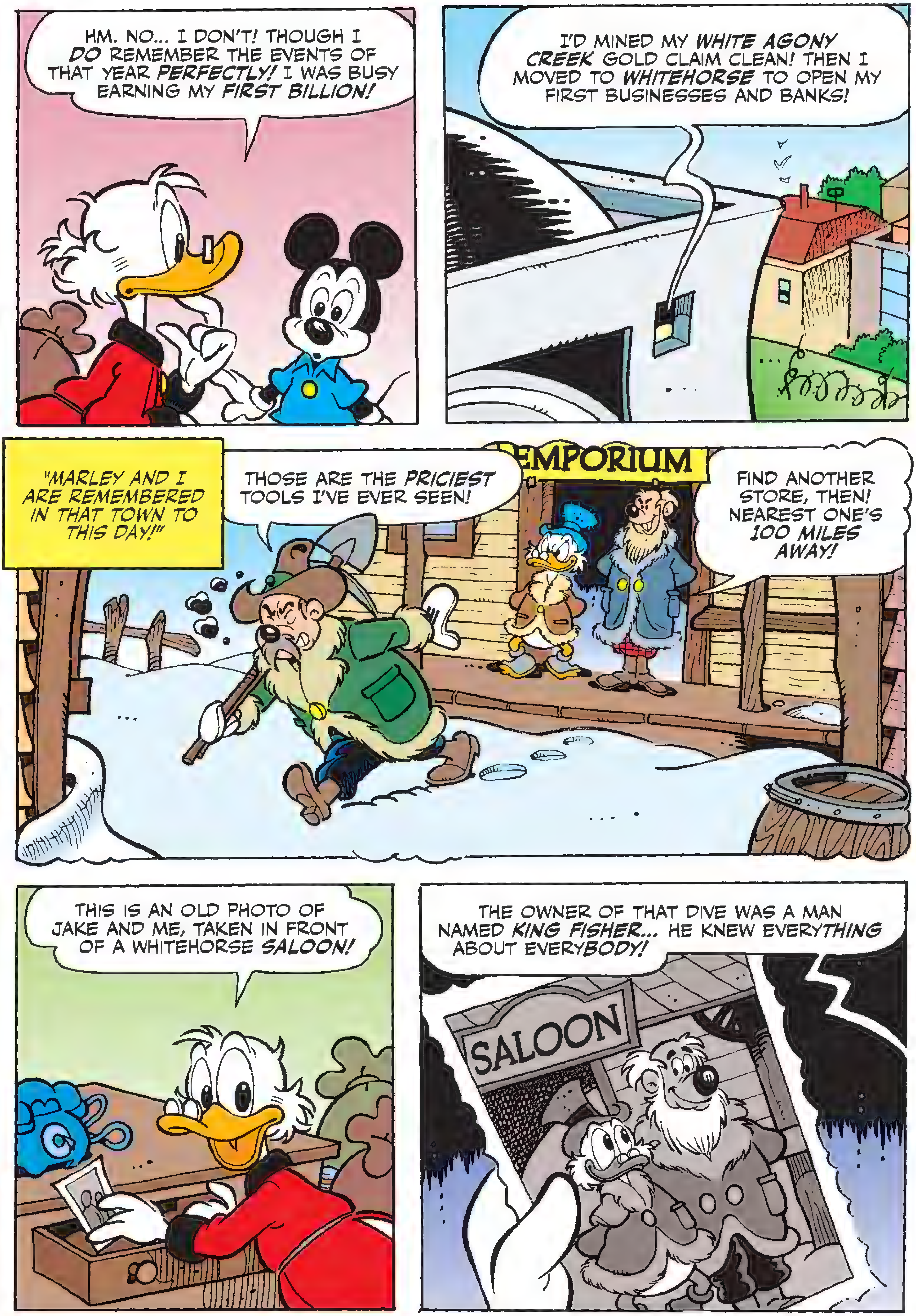
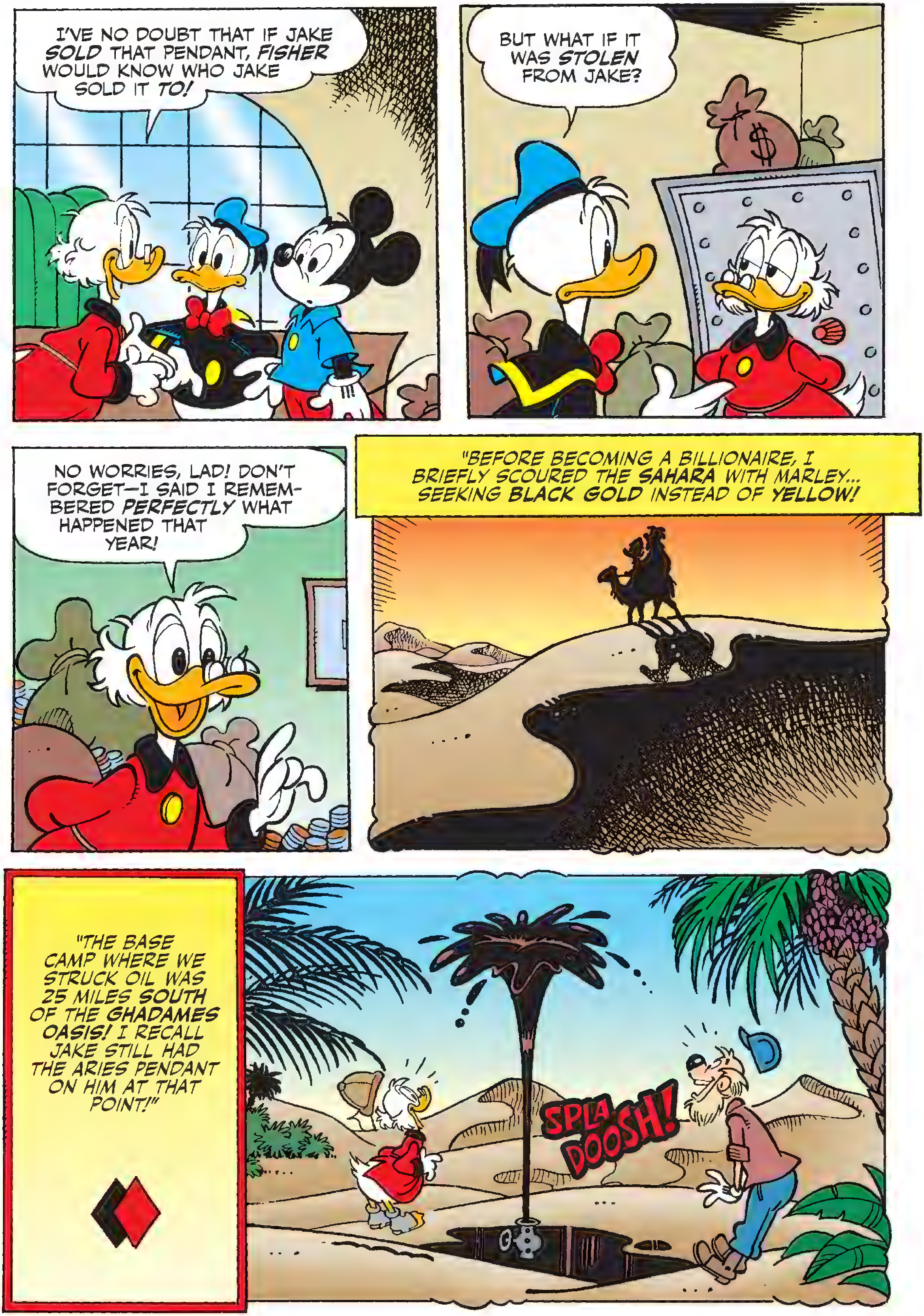
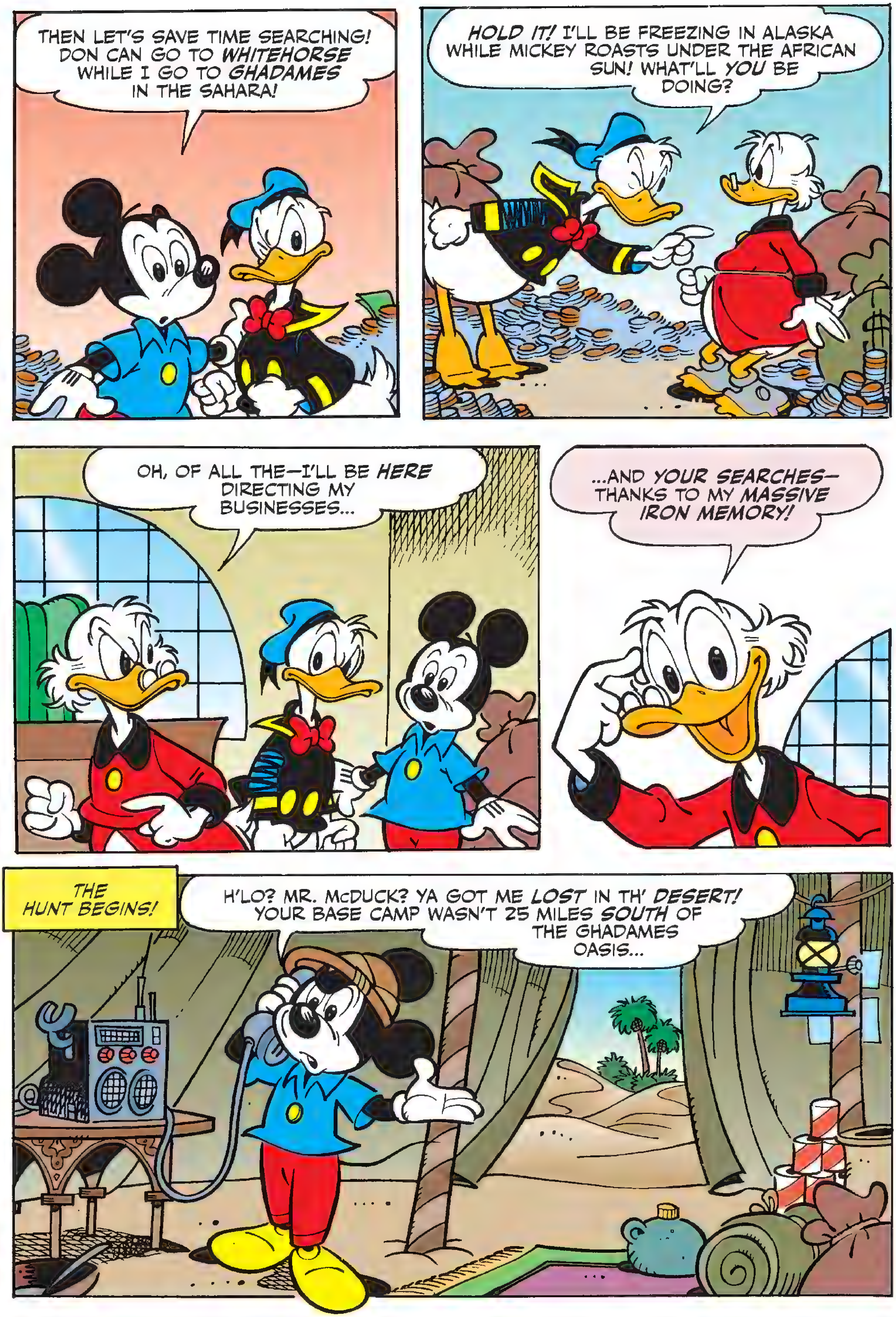
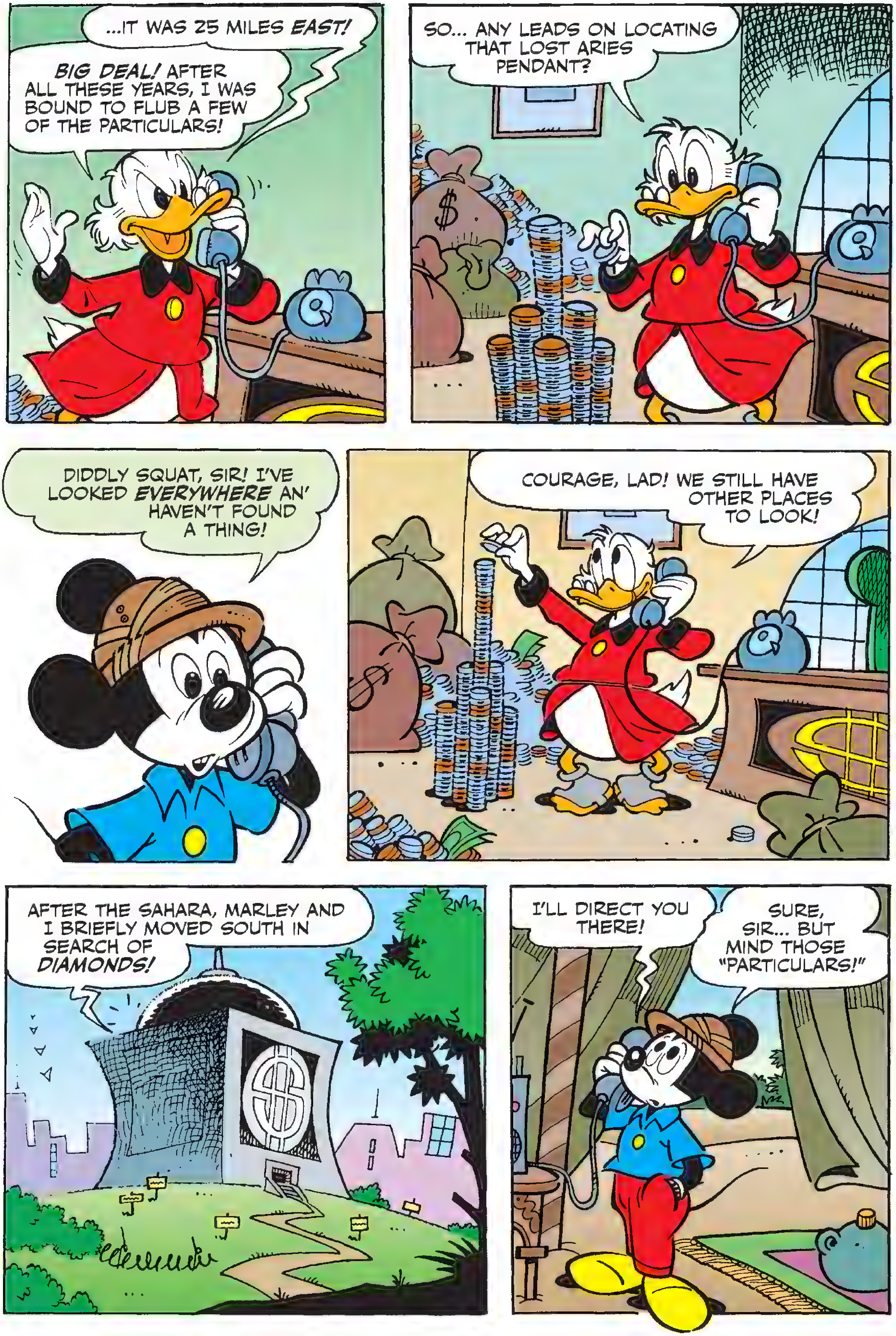

WELL, LAD? WHAT'S THE NEWS?
NOTHIN' GOOD, SIR!
THEN IT LOOKS LIKE WE'RE STUCK—*FOR REAL* THIS TIME!
MAYBE SO! TO PAY OFF *GAMBLIN' DEBTS,* TH' ELEVENTH *ZODIAC SOCIETY* DESCENDANT SOLD EVERYTHING HE OWNED TO A FELLA NAMED *JAKE MARLEY...*
...AN' ALL WE KNOW OF *HIM* IS THAT HE WENT *NORTH* TO GET IN ON THE *KLONDIKE GOLD RUSH!*
HE COULD BE ANYBODY!
OR COULD HE?... MICKEY, DID YOU SAY *MARLEY?*
?
DID YOU KNOW HIM?
AND HOW! *OLD JAKE* WAS MY PARTNER FOR OVER A *YEAR!*

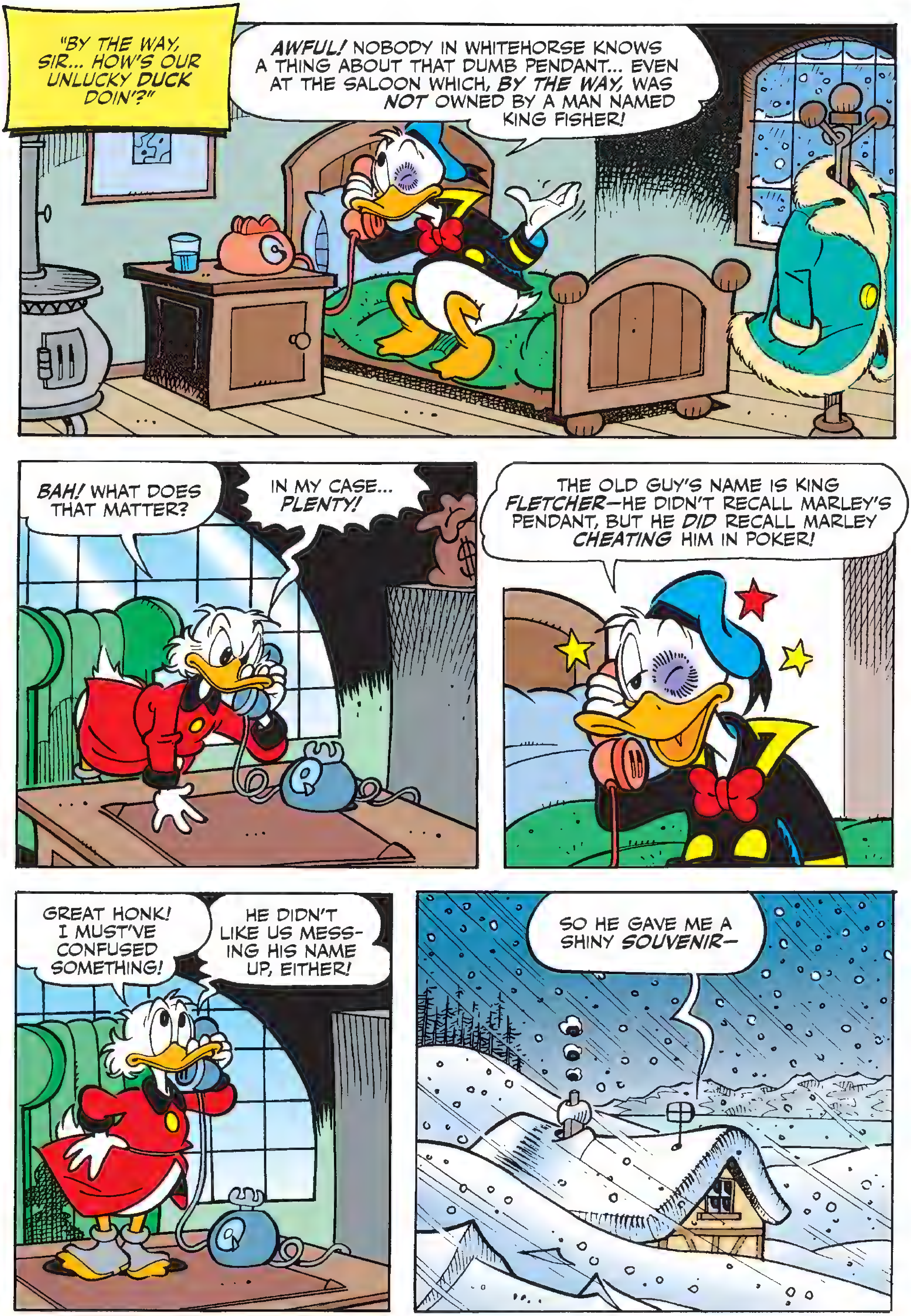

"TOGETHER WE FOUND ONE OF THE **RICHEST** VEINS IN THE REGION!"
TONK
JACOB WAS AS THRIFTY AS ME—WHICH IS WHY WE GOT ALONG!
HOW PEACHY. SKINFLINTS IN STEREO!
AND, AS I RECALL... HE *DID* WEAR A ***GOLD TRIANGLE*** AROUND HIS NECK!
OBOY! THAT'S OUR LOST PENDANT!
EXCEPT... I DON'T REMEMBER JAKE STILL HAVING IT WHEN WE DISSOLVED OUR PARTNERSHIP.
SCRITCH
SCRATCH
DO YA KNOW WHERE HE IS NOW?
OR WHERE YOU LOST TRACK OF HIM?

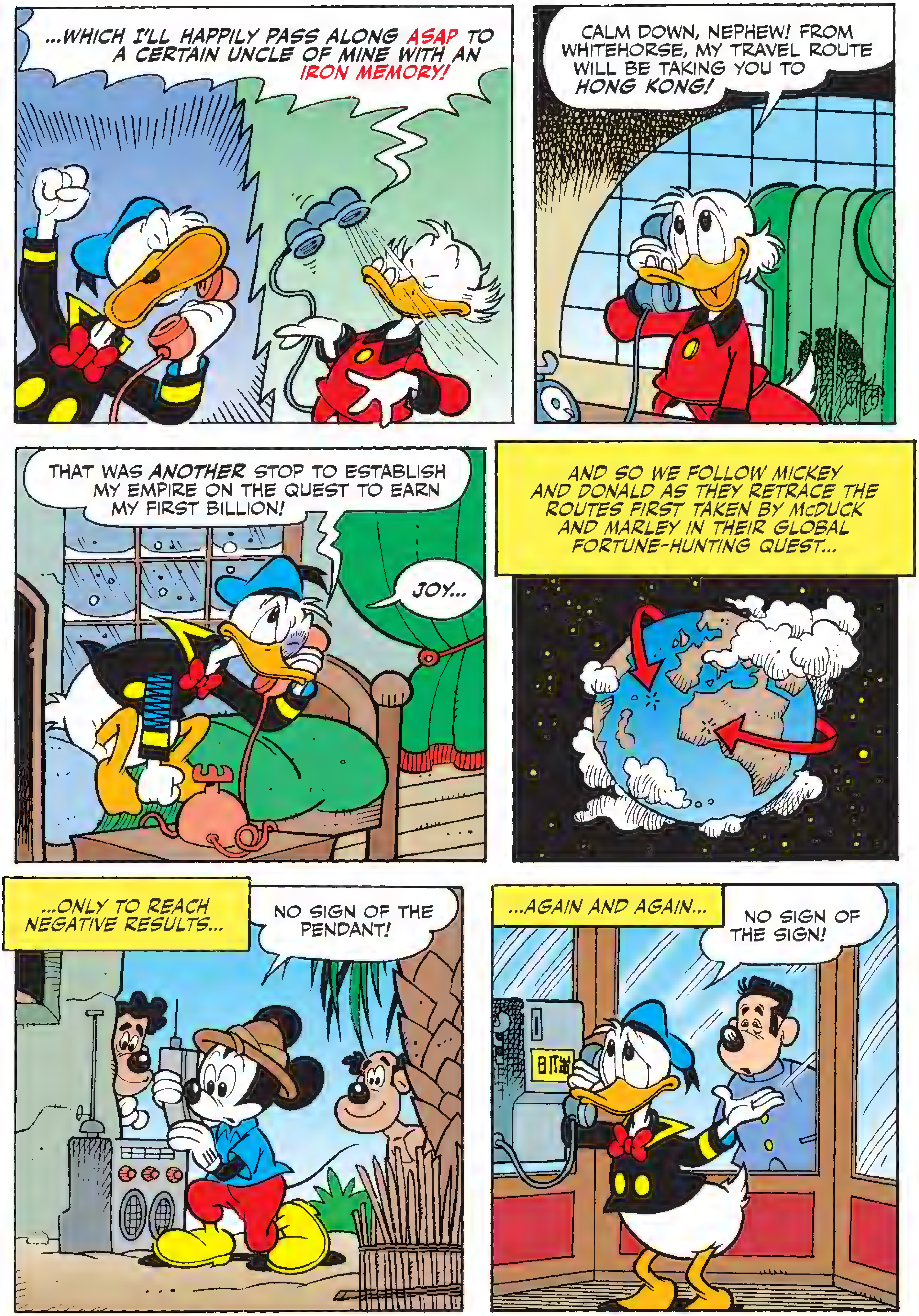

HM. NO... I DON'T! THOUGH I *DO* REMEMBER THE EVENTS OF THAT YEAR *PERFECTLY!* I WAS BUSY EARNING MY *FIRST BILLION!*
I'D MINED MY *WHITE AGONY CREEK* GOLD CLAIM CLEAN! THEN I MOVED TO *WHITEHORSE* TO OPEN MY FIRST BUSINESSES AND BANKS!
"MARLEY AND I ARE REMEMBERED IN THAT TOWN TO THIS DAY!"
THOSE ARE THE *PRICIEST* TOOLS I'VE EVER SEEN!
EMPORIUM
FIND ANOTHER STORE, THEN! NEAREST ONE'S *100 MILES AWAY!*
THIS IS AN OLD PHOTO OF JAKE AND ME, TAKEN IN FRONT OF A WHITEHORSE *SALOON!*
THE OWNER OF THAT DIVE WAS A MAN NAMED *KING FISHER...* HE KNEW EVERY*THING* ABOUT EVERY*BODY!*
SALOON

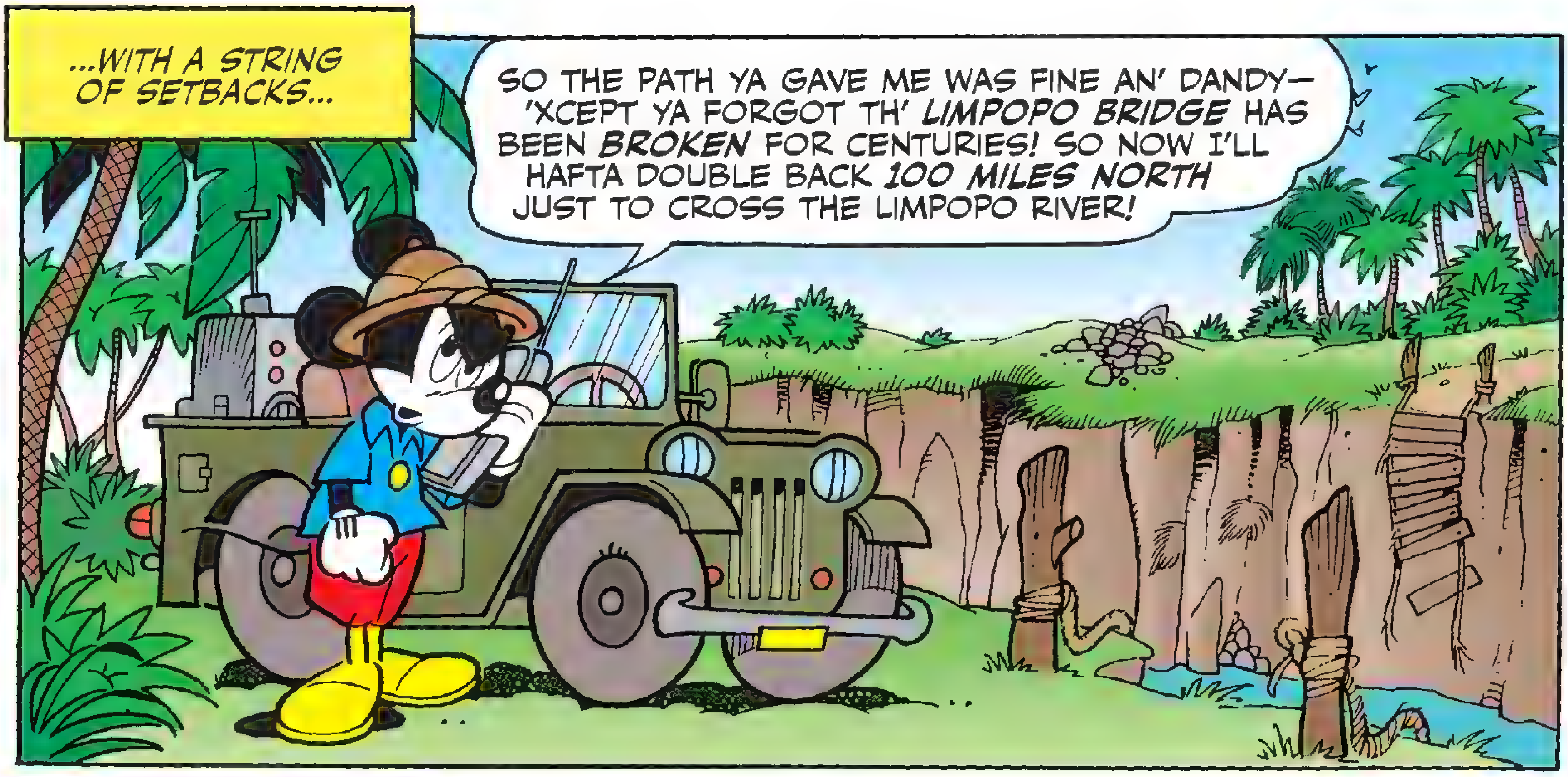

I'VE NO DOUBT THAT IF JAKE *SOLD* THAT PENDANT, *FISHER* WOULD KNOW WHO JAKE SOLD IT *TO!*
BUT WHAT IF IT WAS *STOLEN* FROM JAKE?
NO WORRIES, LAD! DON'T FORGET—I SAID I REMEMBERED *PERFECTLY* WHAT HAPPENED THAT YEAR!
"BEFORE BECOMING A BILLIONAIRE, I BRIEFLY SCOURED THE **SAHARA** WITH MARLEY... SEEKING **BLACK GOLD** INSTEAD OF **YELLOW!**
"THE BASE CAMP WHERE WE STRUCK OIL WAS **25 MILES SOUTH** OF THE **GHADAMES OASIS!** I RECALL JAKE STILL HAD THE ARIES PENDANT ON HIM AT THAT POINT!"
SPLADOOSH!
$

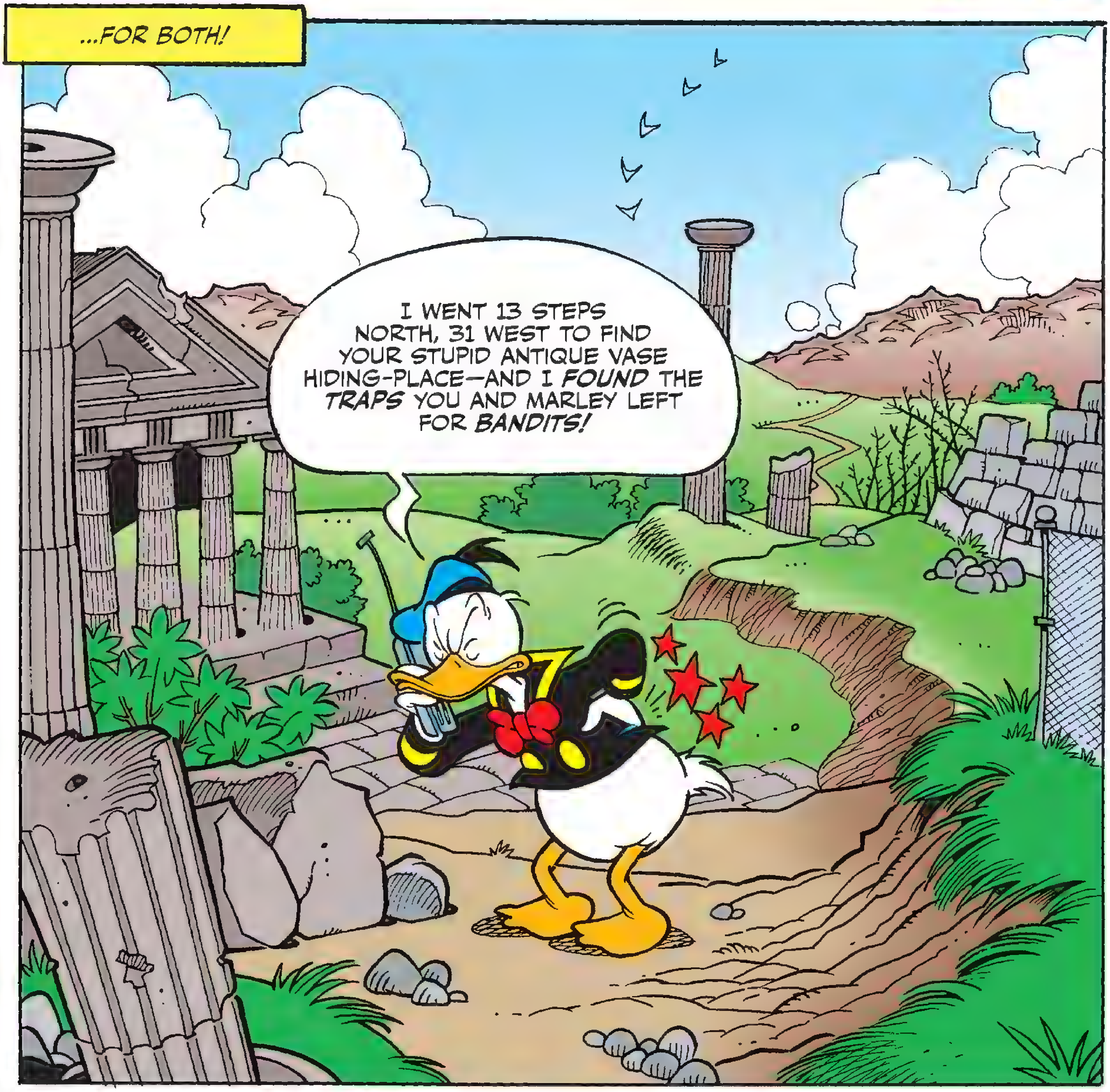

THEN LET'S SAVE TIME SEARCHING! DON CAN GO TO *WHITEHORSE* WHILE I GO TO *GHADAMES* IN THE SAHARA!
HOLD IT! I'LL BE FREEZING IN ALASKA WHILE MICKEY ROASTS UNDER THE AFRICAN SUN! WHAT'LL *YOU* BE DOING?
OH, OF ALL THE—I'LL BE *HERE* DIRECTING MY BUSINESSES...
...AND *YOUR SEARCHES*—THANKS TO MY *MASSIVE IRON MEMORY!*
THE HUNT BEGINS!
H'LO? MR. McDUCK? YA GOT ME *LOST* IN TH' *DESERT!* YOUR BASE CAMP WASN'T 25 MILES *SOUTH* OF THE GHADAMES OASIS...

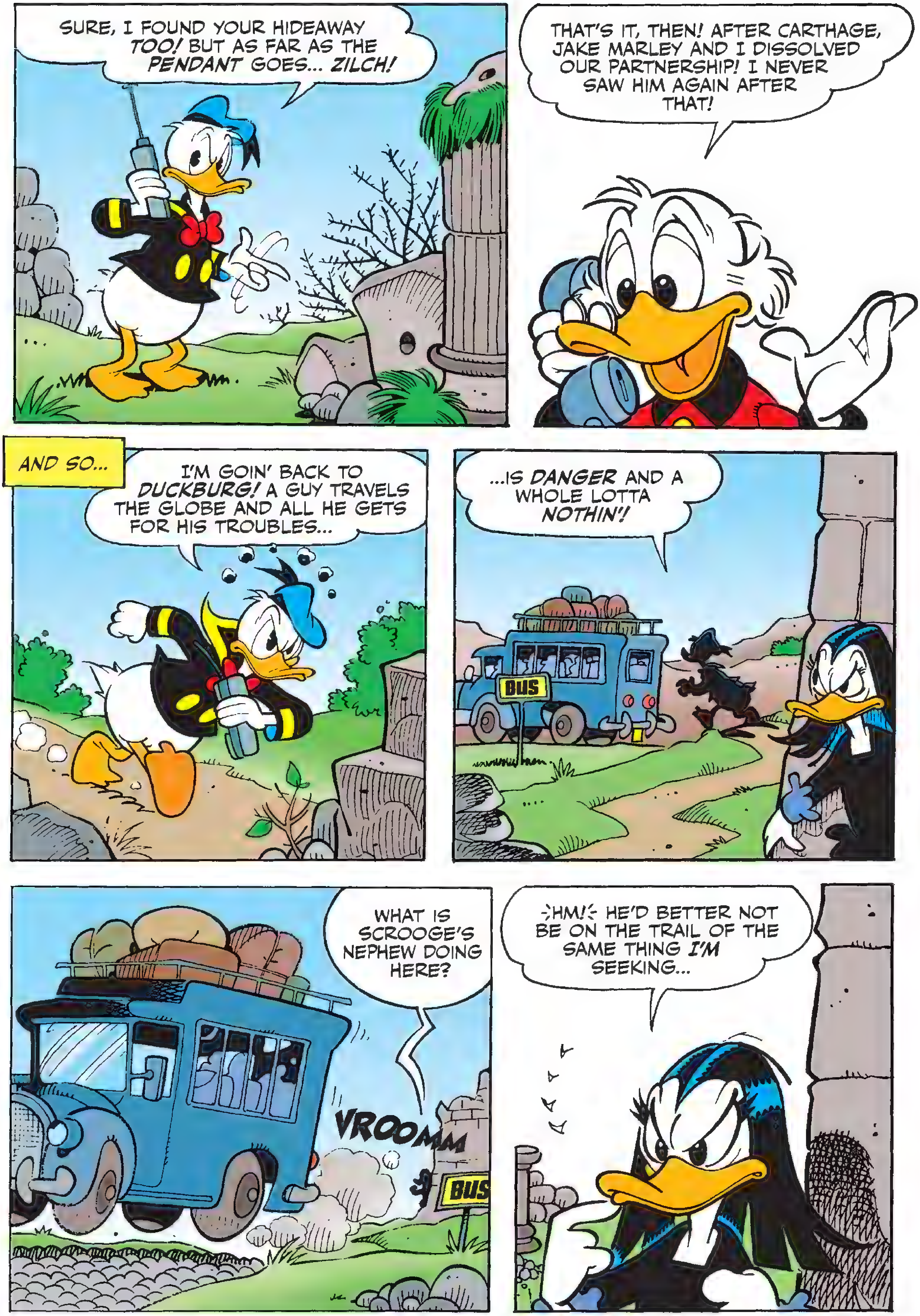

...IT WAS 25 MILES *EAST!*
BIG DEAL! AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, I WAS BOUND TO FLUB A FEW OF THE PARTICULARS!
SO... ANY LEADS ON LOCATING THAT LOST ARIES PENDANT?
DIDDLY SQUAT, SIR! I'VE LOOKED *EVERYWHERE* AN' HAVEN'T FOUND A THING!
COURAGE, LAD! WE STILL HAVE OTHER PLACES TO LOOK!
AFTER THE SAHARA, MARLEY AND I BRIEFLY MOVED SOUTH IN SEARCH OF *DIAMONDS!*
I'LL DIRECT YOU THERE!
SURE, SIR... BUT MIND THOSE "PARTICULARS!"

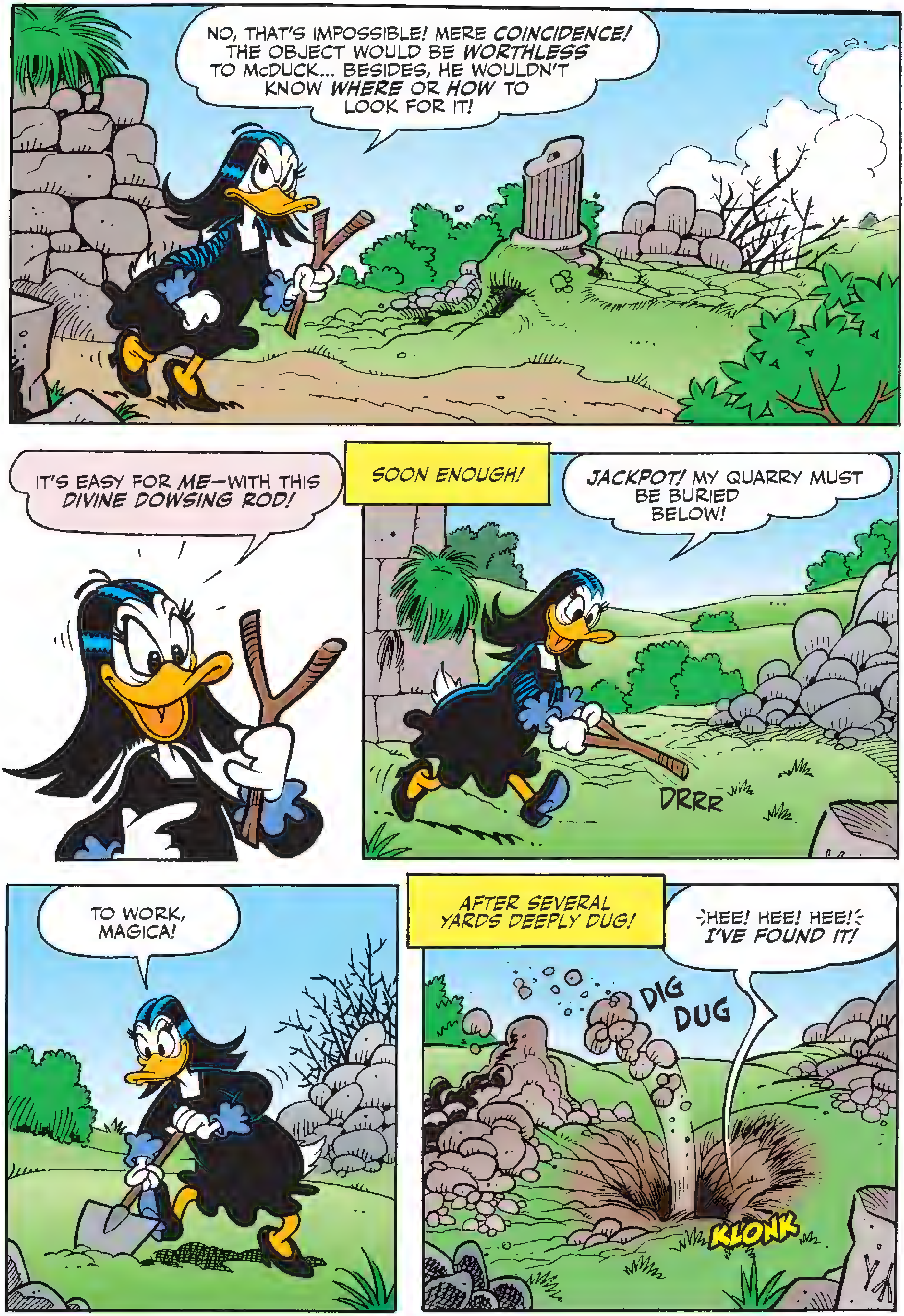

"BY THE WAY, SIR... HOW'S OUR UNLUCKY DUCK DOIN'?"
AWFUL! NOBODY IN WHITEHORSE KNOWS A THING ABOUT THAT DUMB PENDANT... EVEN AT THE SALOON WHICH, BY THE WAY, WAS NOT OWNED BY A MAN NAMED KING FISHER!
BAH! WHAT DOES THAT MATTER?
IN MY CASE... PLENTY!
THE OLD GUY'S NAME IS KING FLETCHER—HE DIDN'T RECALL MARLEY'S PENDANT, BUT HE DID RECALL MARLEY CHEATING HIM IN POKER!
GREAT HONK! I MUST'VE CONFUSED SOMETHING!
HE DIDN'T LIKE US MESSING HIS NAME UP, EITHER!
SO HE GAVE ME A SHINY SOUVENIR—

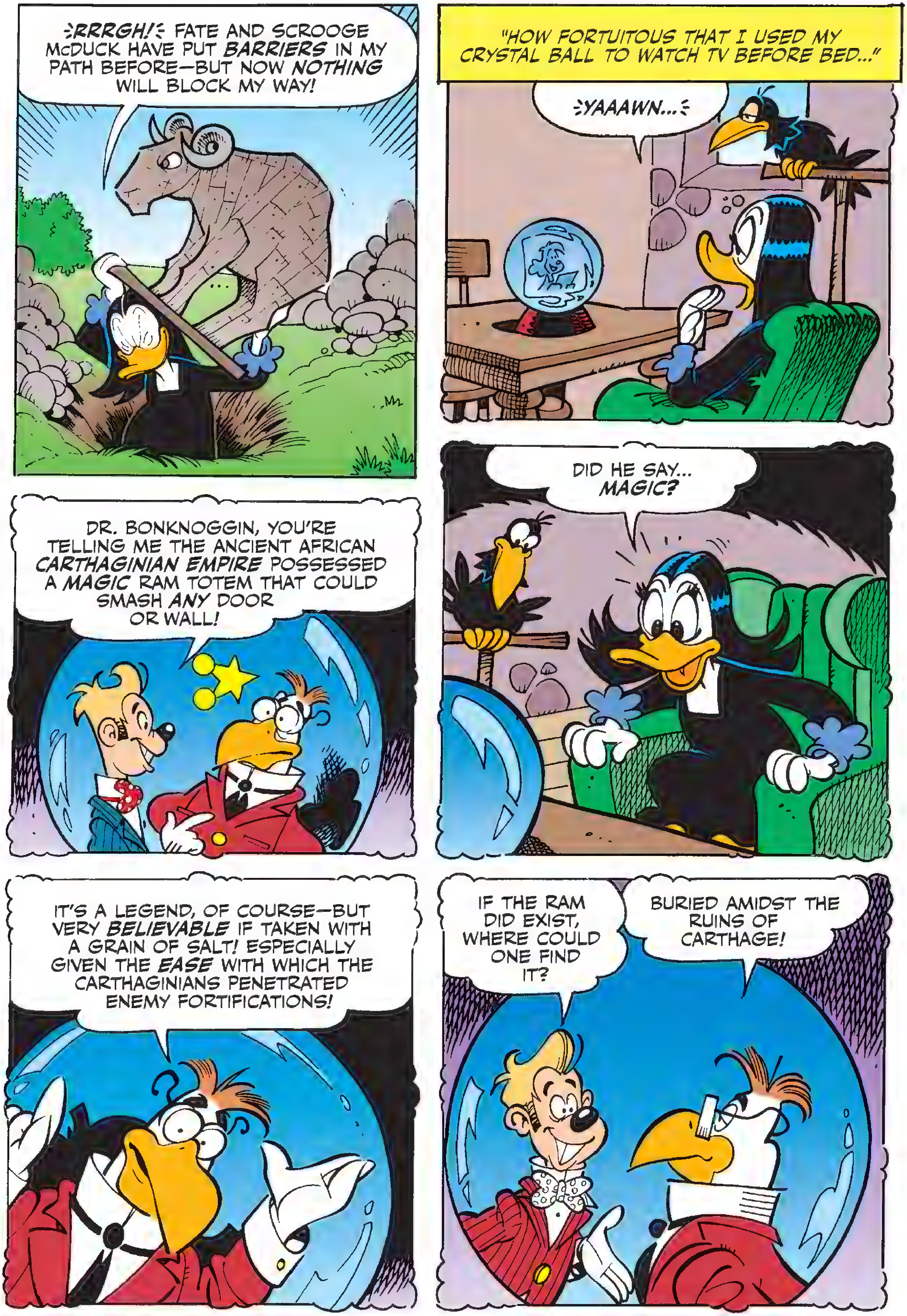

...WHICH I'LL HAPPILY PASS ALONG ASAP TO A CERTAIN UNCLE OF MINE WITH AN IRON MEMORY!
CALM DOWN, NEPHEW! FROM WHITEHORSE, MY TRAVEL ROUTE WILL BE TAKING YOU TO HONG KONG!
THAT WAS ANOTHER STOP TO ESTABLISH MY EMPIRE ON THE QUEST TO EARN MY FIRST BILLION!
JOY...
AND SO WE FOLLOW MICKEY AND DONALD AS THEY RETRACE THE ROUTES FIRST TAKEN BY McDUCK AND MARLEY IN THEIR GLOBAL FORTUNE-HUNTING QUEST...
...ONLY TO REACH NEGATIVE RESULTS...
NO SIGN OF THE PENDANT!
...AGAIN AND AGAIN...
NO SIGN OF THE SIGN!


...WITH A STRING OF SETBACKS...
SO THE PATH YA GAVE ME WAS FINE AN' DANDY— 'XCEPT YA FORGOT TH' *LIMPOPO BRIDGE* HAS BEEN *BROKEN* FOR CENTURIES! SO NOW I'LL HAFTA DOUBLE BACK *100 MILES NORTH* JUST TO CROSS THE LIMPOPO RIVER!

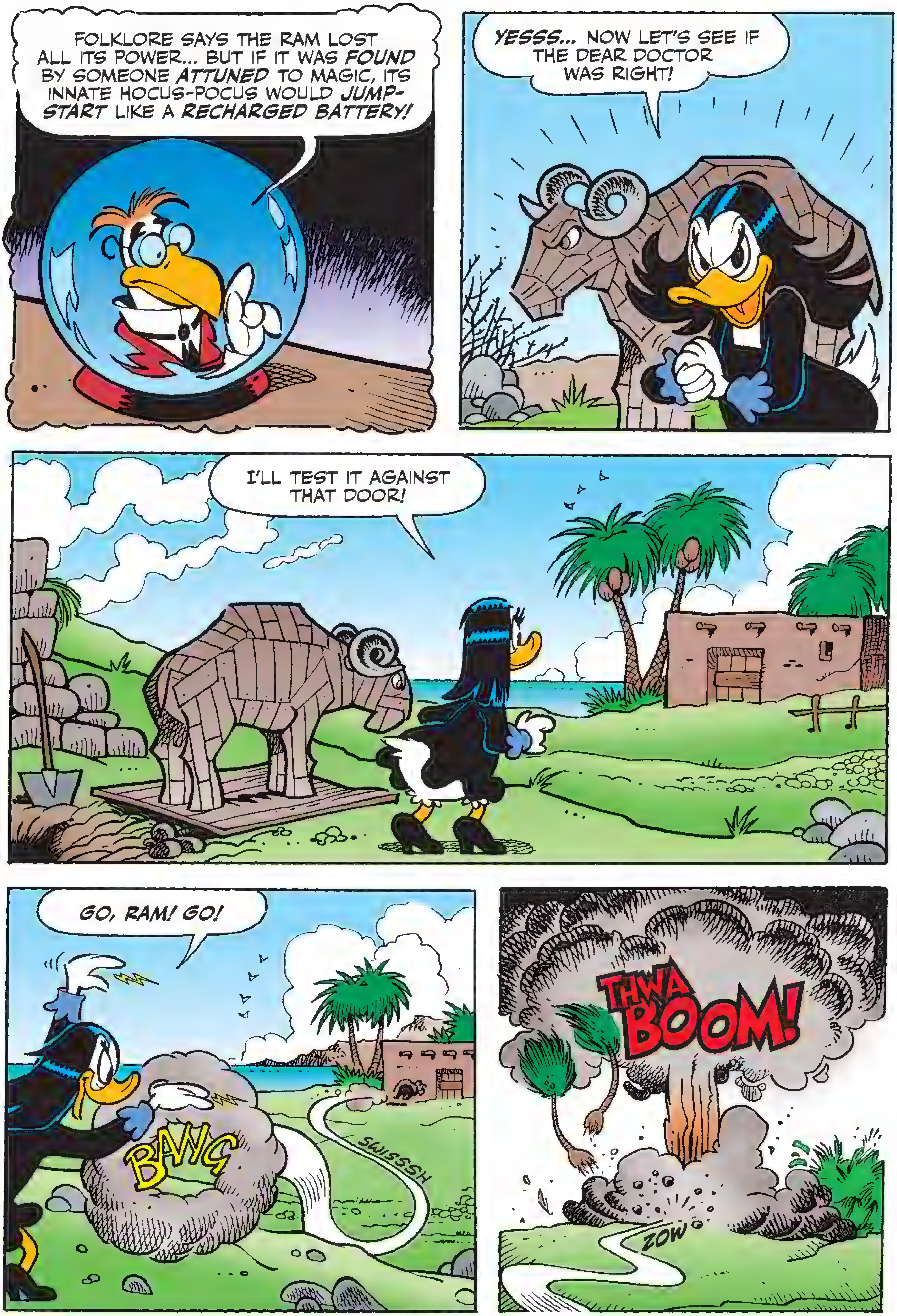

...FOR BOTH!
I WENT 13 STEPS NORTH, 31 WEST TO FIND YOUR STUPID ANTIQUE VASE HIDING-PLACE—AND I *FOUND* THE *TRAPS* YOU AND MARLEY LEFT FOR *BANDITS!*

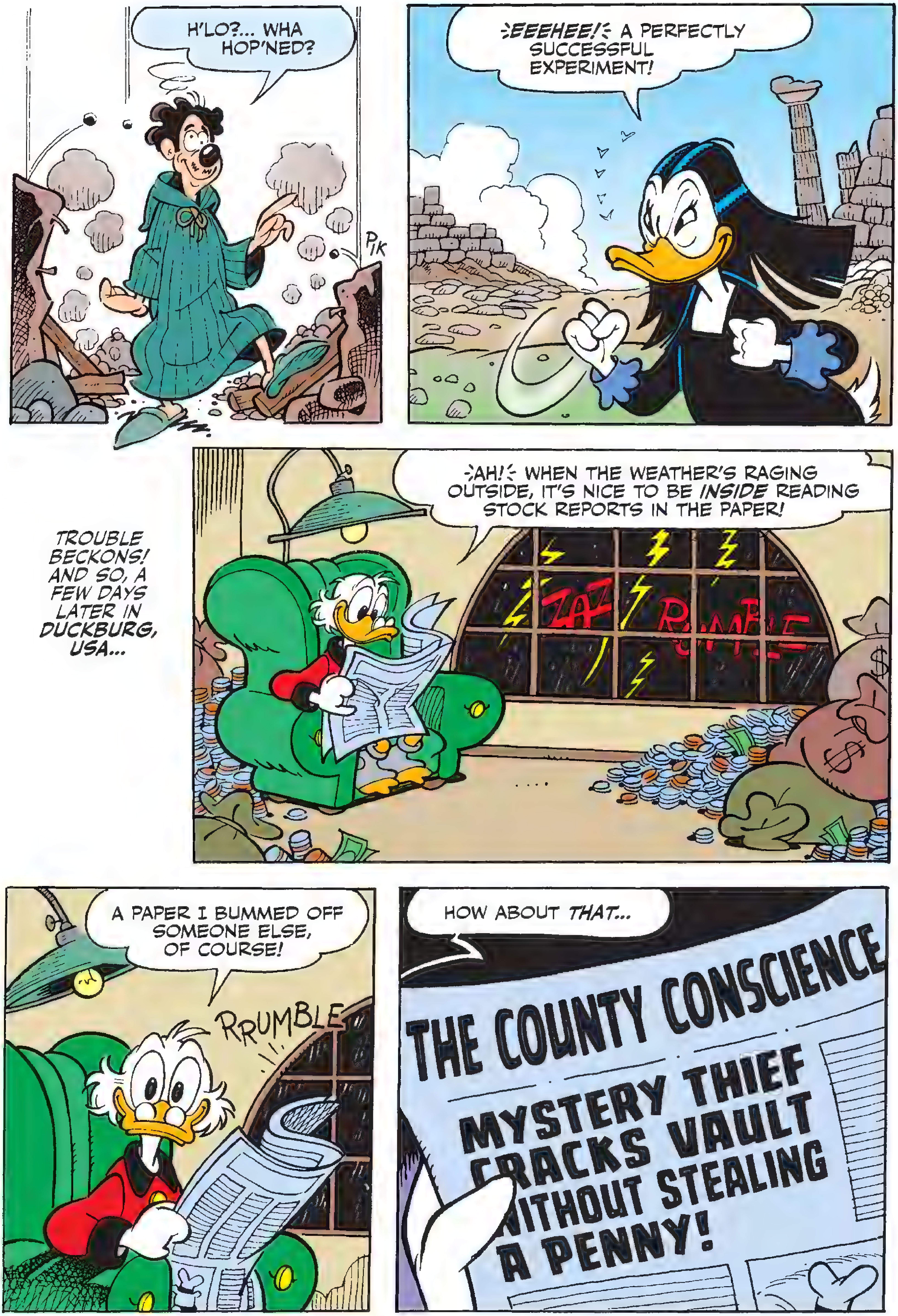

SURE, I FOUND YOUR HIDEAWAY *TOO!* BUT AS FAR AS THE *PENDANT* GOES... *ZILCH!*
THAT'S IT, THEN! AFTER CARTHAGE, JAKE MARLEY AND I DISSOLVED OUR PARTNERSHIP! I NEVER SAW HIM AGAIN AFTER THAT!
AND SO...
I'M GOIN' BACK TO *DUCKBURG!* A GUY TRAVELS THE GLOBE AND ALL HE GETS FOR HIS TROUBLES...
...IS *DANGER* AND A WHOLE LOTTA *NOTHIN'!*
BUS
WHAT IS SCROOGE'S NEPHEW DOING HERE?
VROOMM
BUS
HM! HE'D BETTER NOT BE ON THE TRAIL OF THE SAME THING *I'M* SEEKING...


NO, THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! MERE *COINCIDENCE!* THE OBJECT WOULD BE *WORTHLESS* TO McDUCK... BESIDES, HE WOULDN'T KNOW *WHERE* OR *HOW* TO LOOK FOR IT!
IT'S EASY FOR *ME*—WITH THIS *DIVINE DOWSING ROD!*
SOON ENOUGH!
JACKPOT! MY QUARRY MUST BE BURIED BELOW!
DRRR
TO WORK, MAGICA!
AFTER SEVERAL YARDS DEEPLY DUG!
DIG
DUG
HEE! HEE! HEE! *I'VE FOUND IT!*
KLONK

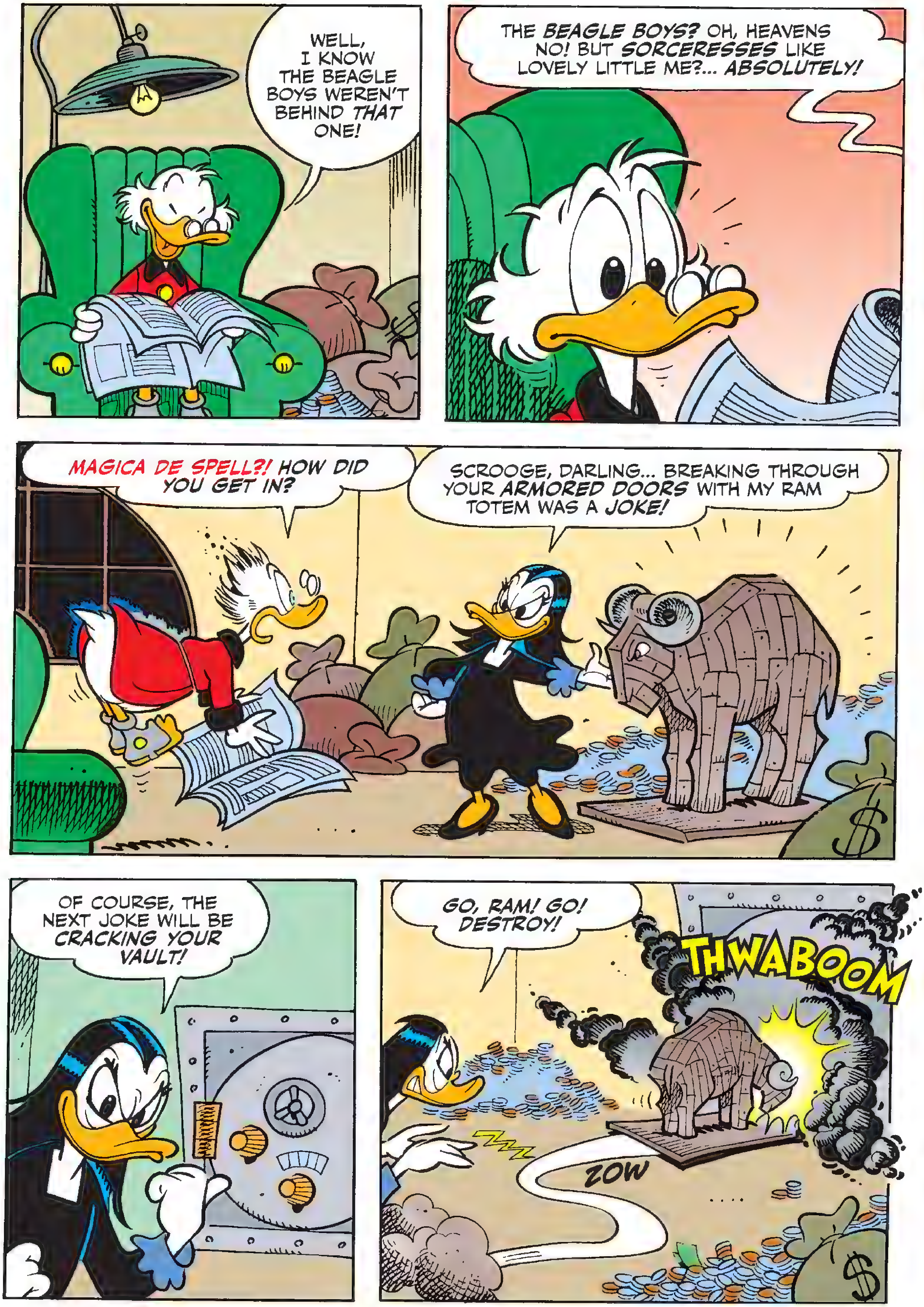


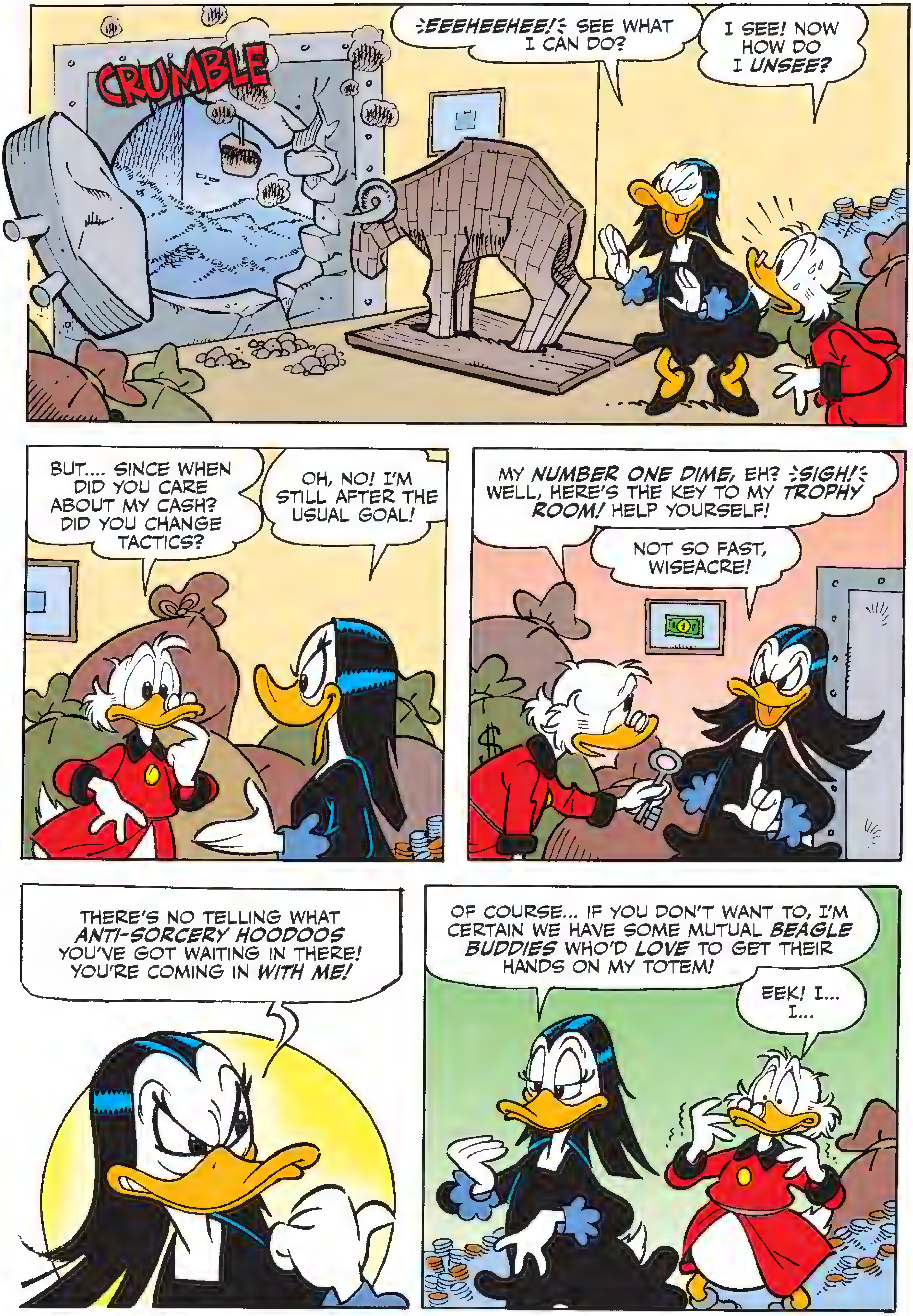
:RRRGH!: FATE AND SCROOGE McDUCK HAVE PUT *BARRIERS* IN MY PATH BEFORE—BUT NOW *NOTHING* WILL BLOCK MY WAY!
"HOW FORTUITOUS THAT I USED MY CRYSTAL BALL TO WATCH TV BEFORE BED..."
:YAAAWN...:
DR. BONKNOGGIN, YOU'RE TELLING ME THE ANCIENT AFRICAN *CARTHAGINIAN EMPIRE* POSSESSED A *MAGIC* RAM TOTEM THAT COULD SMASH *ANY* DOOR OR WALL!
DID HE SAY... *MAGIC?*
IT'S A LEGEND, OF COURSE—BUT VERY *BELIEVABLE* IF TAKEN WITH A GRAIN OF SALT! ESPECIALLY GIVEN THE *EASE* WITH WHICH THE CARTHAGINIANS PENETRATED ENEMY FORTIFICATIONS!
IF THE RAM DID EXIST, WHERE COULD ONE FIND IT?
BURIED AMIDST THE RUINS OF CARTHAGE!

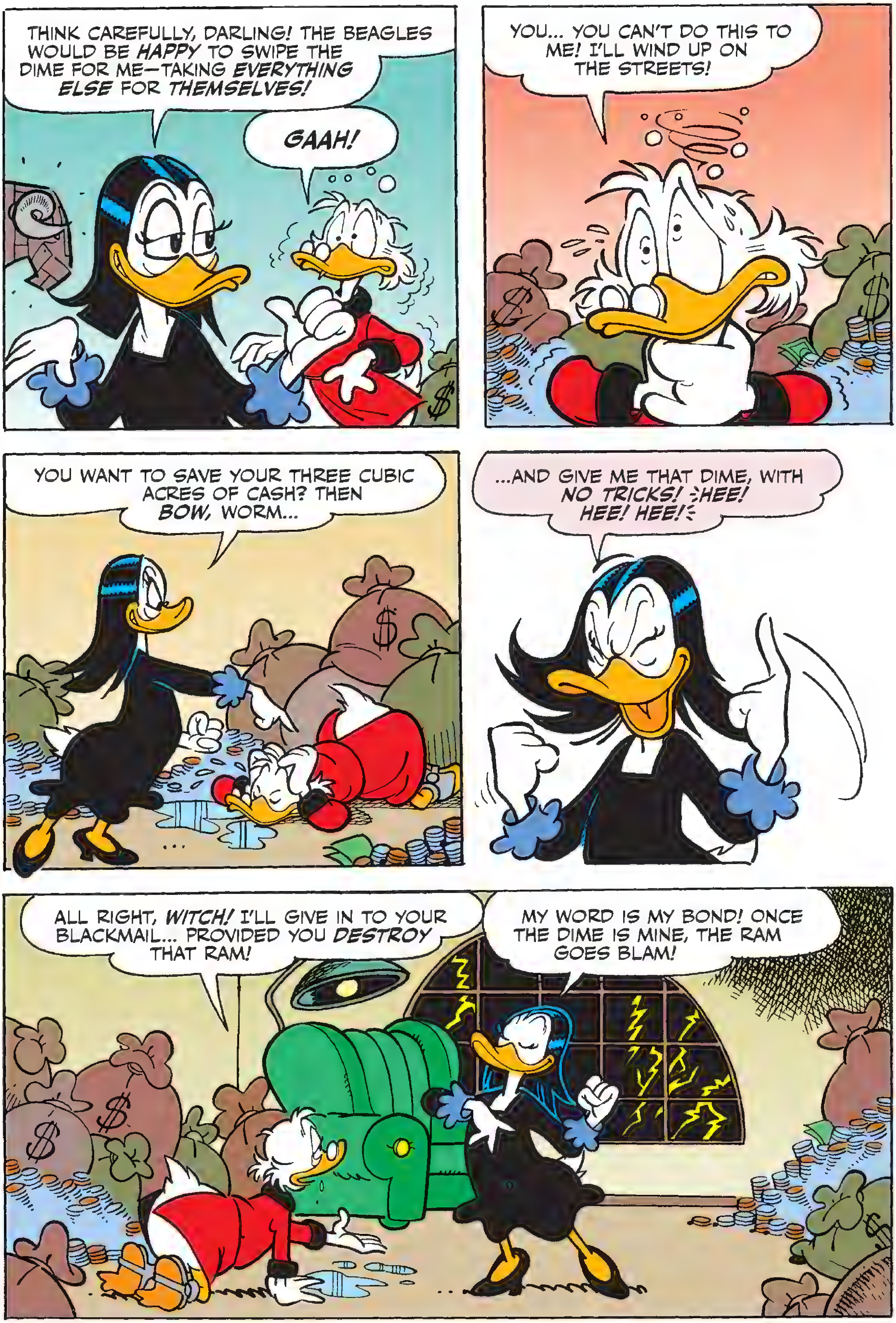

FOLKLORE SAYS THE RAM LOST ALL ITS POWER... BUT IF IT WAS FOUND BY SOMEONE ATTUNED TO MAGIC, ITS INNATE HOCUS-POCUS WOULD JUMP-START LIKE A RECHARGED BATTERY!
YESSS... NOW LET'S SEE IF THE DEAR DOCTOR WAS RIGHT!
I'LL TEST IT AGAINST THAT DOOR!
GO, RAM! GO!
BANG
SWISSSH
THWA BOOM!
ZOW

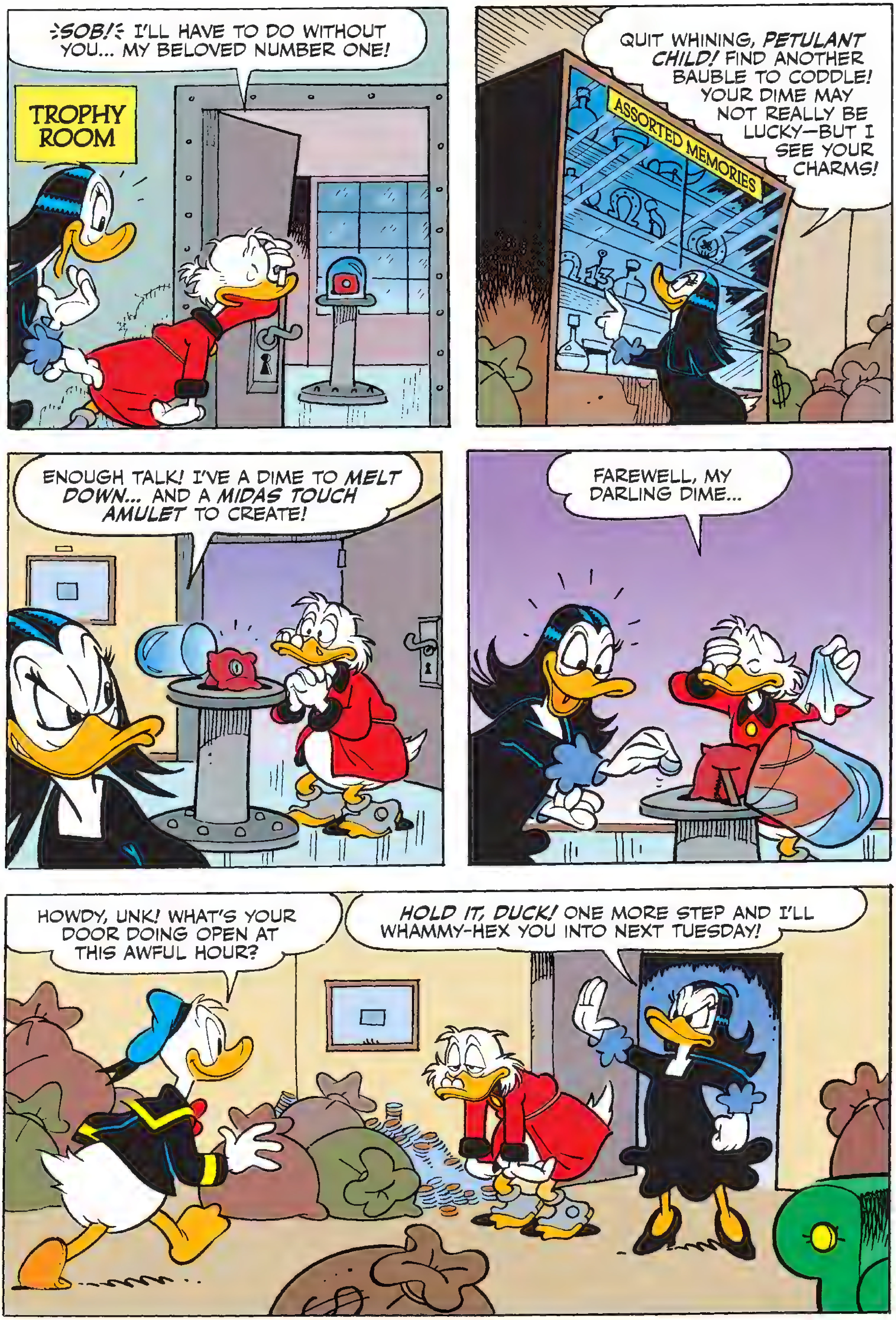


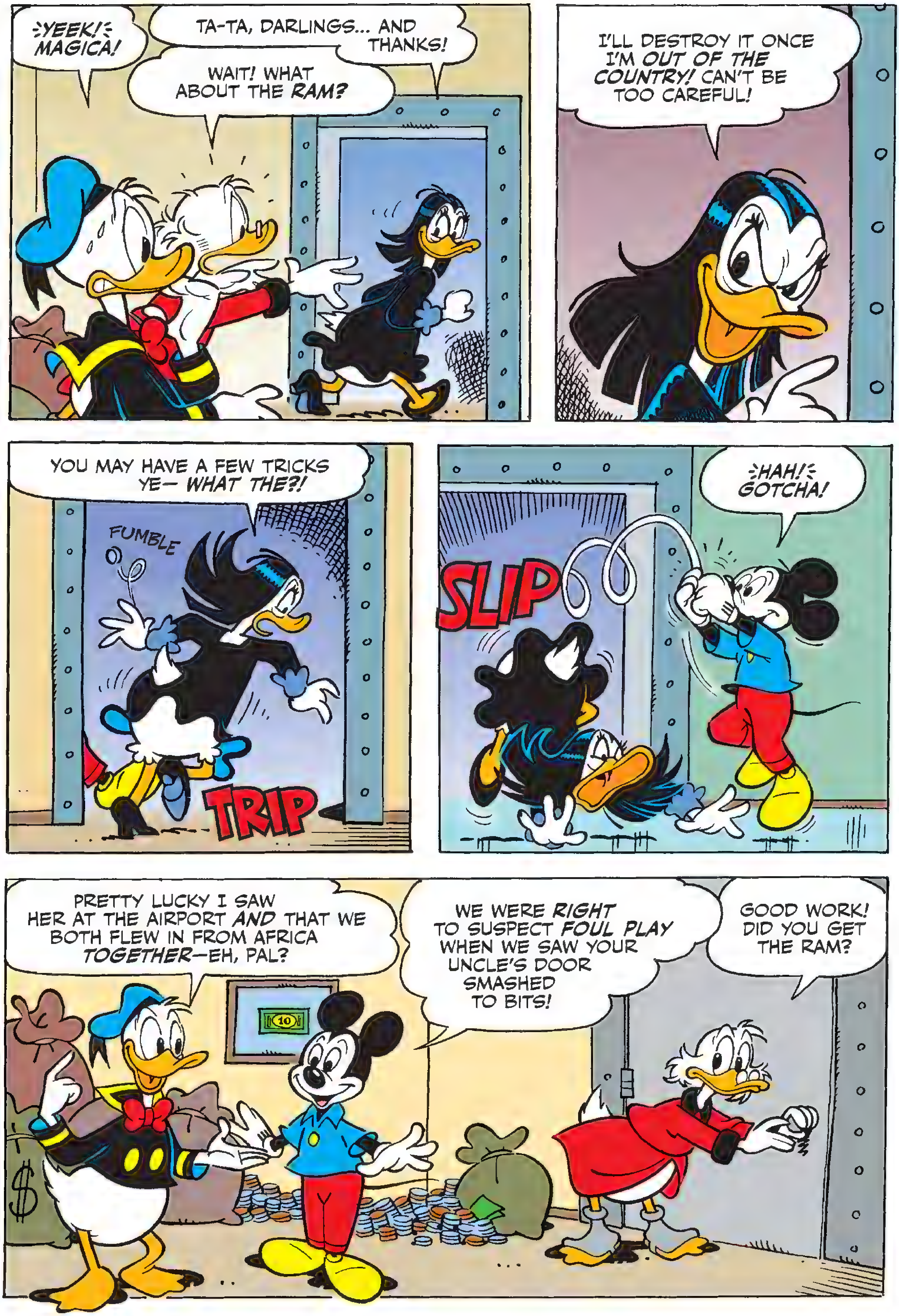
H'LO?... WHA HOP'NED?
PIK
-EEEHEE!- A PERFECTLY SUCCESSFUL EXPERIMENT!
TROUBLE BECKONS! AND SO, A FEW DAYS LATER IN DUCKBURG, USA...
-AH!- WHEN THE WEATHER'S RAGING OUTSIDE, IT'S NICE TO BE *INSIDE* READING STOCK REPORTS IN THE PAPER!
ZAZ
RUMBLE
A PAPER I BUMMED OFF SOMEONE ELSE, OF COURSE!
RRUMBLE
HOW ABOUT *THAT*...
THE COUNTY CONSCIENCE
MYSTERY THIEF CRACKS VAULT WITHOUT STEALING A PENNY!

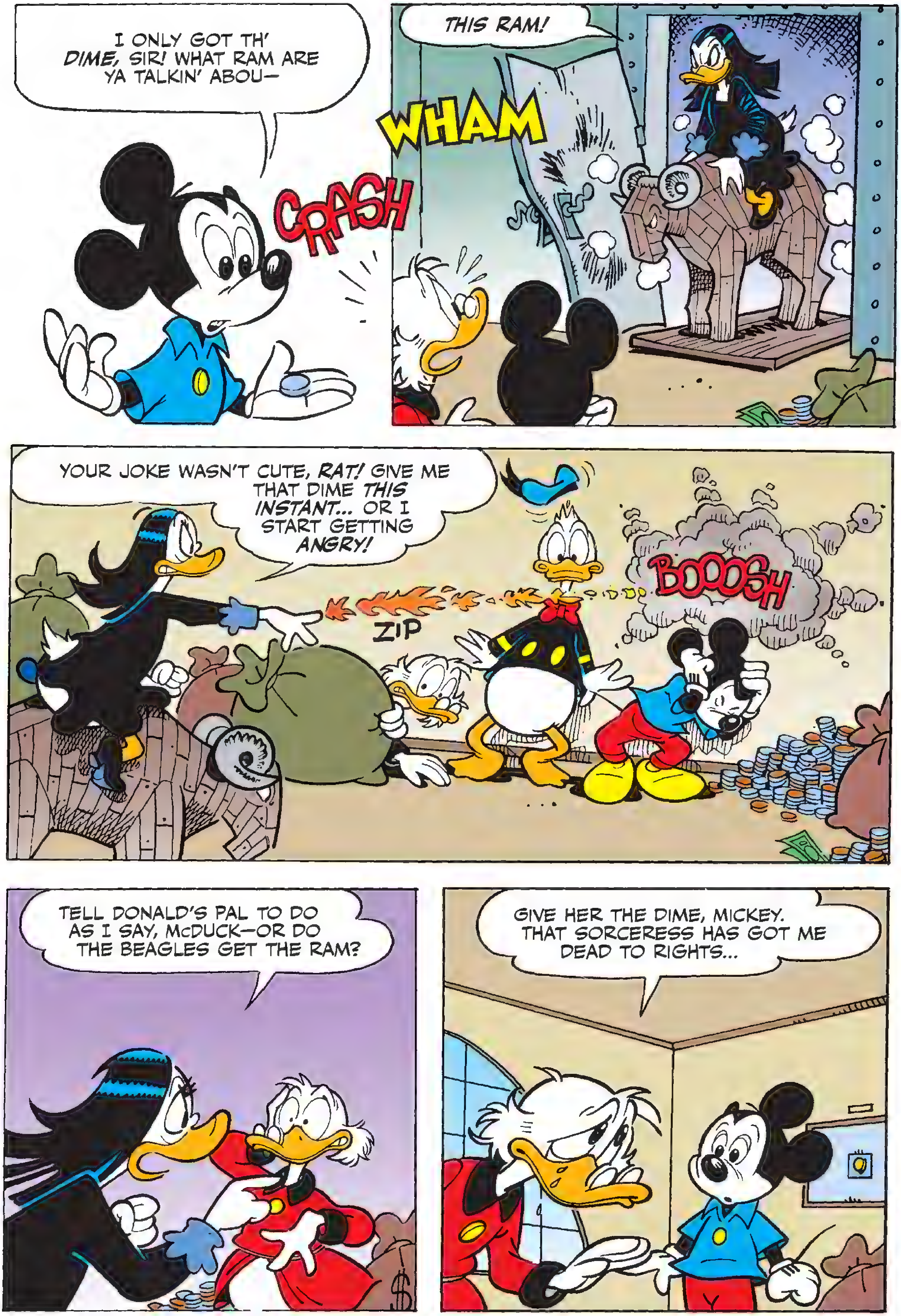

WELL, I KNOW THE BEAGLE BOYS WEREN'T BEHIND *THAT* ONE!
THE *BEAGLE BOYS?* OH, HEAVENS NO! BUT *SORCERESSES* LIKE LOVELY LITTLE ME?... *ABSOLUTELY!*
MAGICA DE SPELL?! HOW DID YOU GET IN?
SCROOGE, DARLING... BREAKING THROUGH YOUR *ARMORED DOORS* WITH MY RAM TOTEM WAS A *JOKE!*
OF COURSE, THE NEXT JOKE WILL BE *CRACKING YOUR VAULT!*
GO, RAM! GO! DESTROY!
THWABOOM
ZOW
$
$

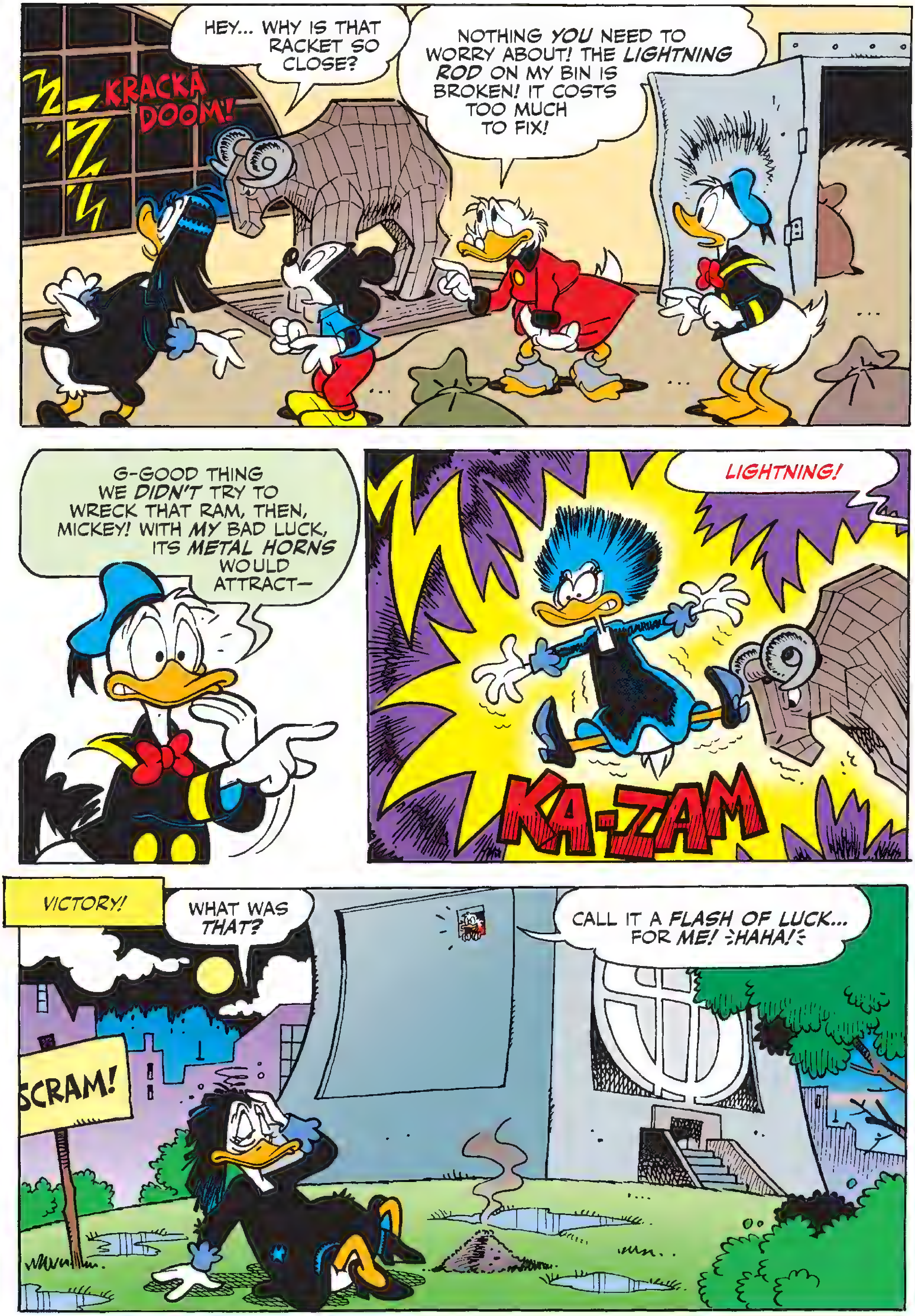

CRUMBLE
:EEEHEEHEE!: SEE WHAT I CAN DO?
I SEE! NOW HOW DO I *UNSEE?*
BUT.... SINCE WHEN DID YOU CARE ABOUT MY CASH? DID YOU CHANGE TACTICS?
OH, NO! I'M STILL AFTER THE USUAL GOAL!
MY *NUMBER ONE DIME,* EH? :*SIGH!*: WELL, HERE'S THE KEY TO MY *TROPHY ROOM!* HELP YOURSELF!
NOT SO FAST, WISEACRE!
THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT *ANTI-SORCERY HOODOOS* YOU'VE GOT WAITING IN THERE! YOU'RE COMING IN *WITH ME!*
OF COURSE... IF YOU DON'T WANT TO, I'M CERTAIN WE HAVE SOME MUTUAL *BEAGLE BUDDIES* WHO'D *LOVE* TO GET THEIR HANDS ON MY TOTEM!
EEK! I... I...

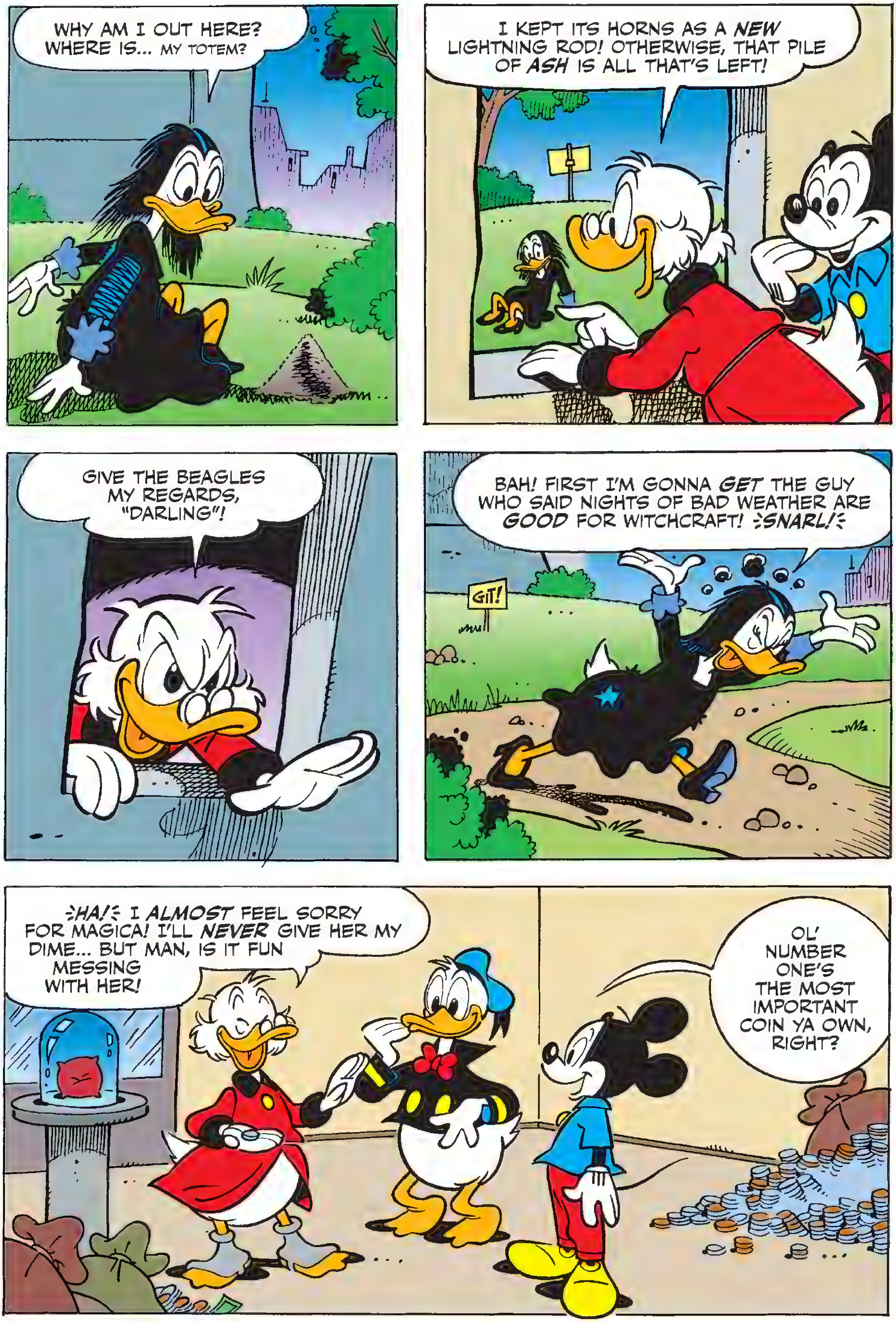

THINK CAREFULLY, DARLING! THE BEAGLES WOULD BE *HAPPY* TO SWIPE THE DIME FOR ME—TAKING *EVERYTHING ELSE* FOR *THEMSELVES!*
GAAH!
YOU... YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME! I'LL WIND UP ON THE STREETS!
YOU WANT TO SAVE YOUR THREE CUBIC ACRES OF CASH? THEN *BOW,* WORM...
...AND GIVE ME THAT DIME, WITH *NO TRICKS!* *HEE! HEE! HEE!*
ALL RIGHT, *WITCH!* I'LL GIVE IN TO YOUR BLACKMAIL... PROVIDED YOU *DESTROY* THAT RAM!
MY WORD IS MY BOND! ONCE THE DIME IS MINE, THE RAM GOES BLAM!

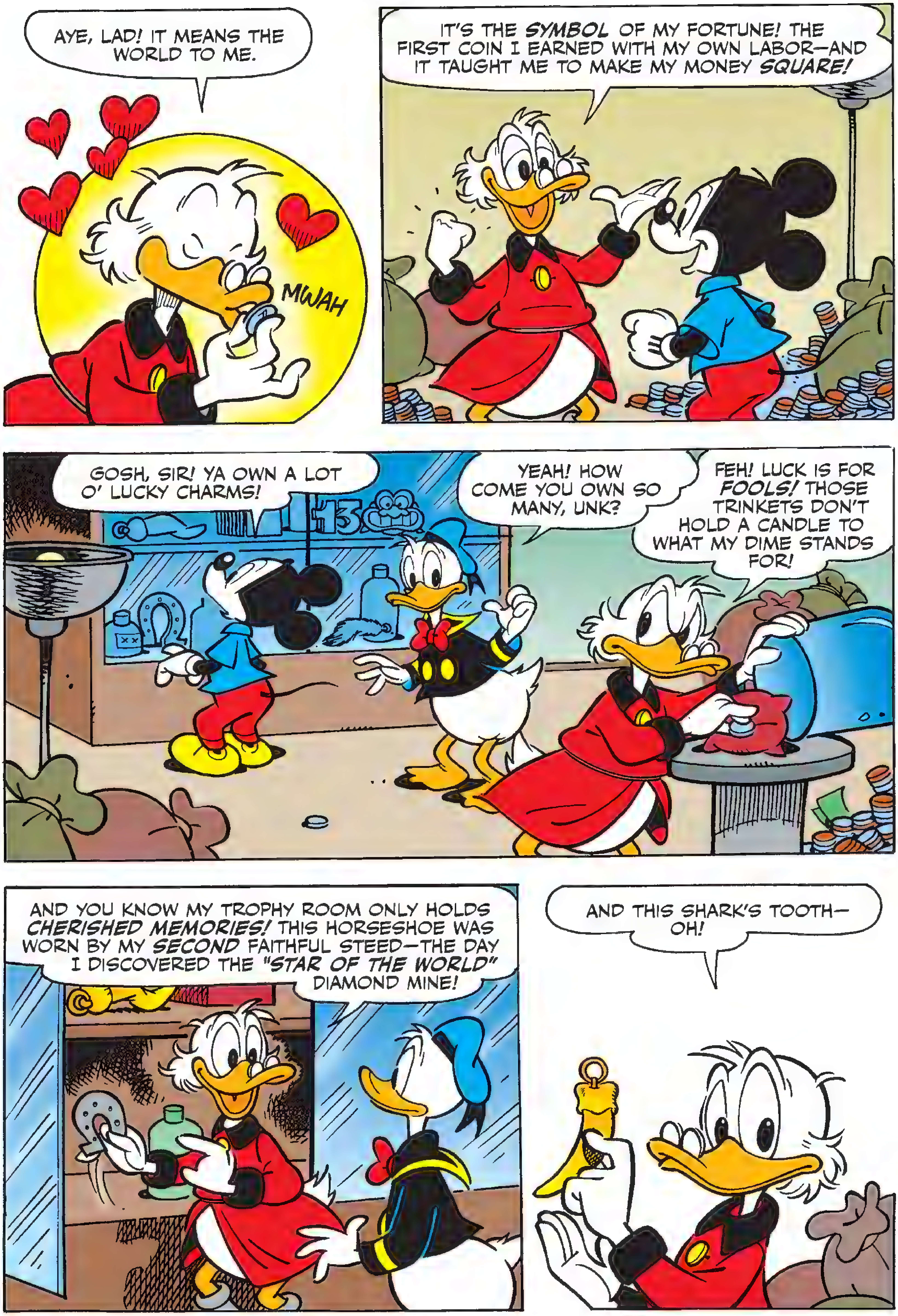

SOB! I'LL HAVE TO DO WITHOUT YOU... MY BELOVED NUMBER ONE!
TROPHY ROOM
QUIT WHINING, *PETULANT CHILD!* FIND ANOTHER BAUBLE TO CODDLE! YOUR DIME MAY NOT REALLY BE LUCKY—BUT I SEE YOUR CHARMS!
ASSORTED MEMORIES
13
ENOUGH TALK! I'VE A DIME TO *MELT DOWN...* AND A *MIDAS TOUCH AMULET* TO CREATE!
FAREWELL, MY DARLING DIME...
HOWDY, UNK! WHAT'S YOUR DOOR DOING OPEN AT THIS AWFUL HOUR?
HOLD IT, DUCK! ONE MORE STEP AND I'LL WHAMMY-HEX YOU INTO NEXT TUESDAY!

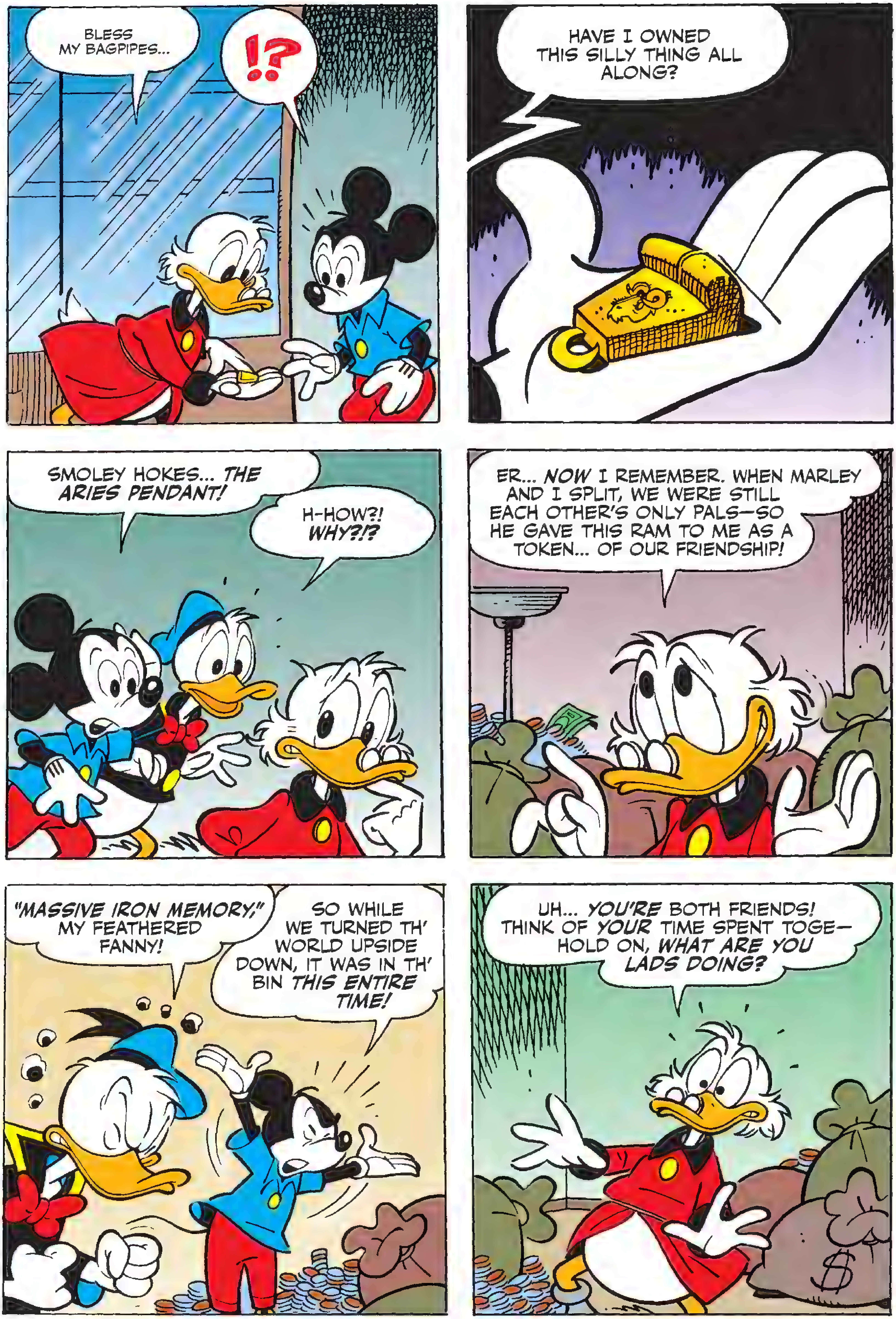

YEEK! MAGICA!
TA-TA, DARLINGS... AND THANKS!
WAIT! WHAT ABOUT THE *RAM?*
I'LL DESTROY IT ONCE I'M *OUT OF THE COUNTRY!* CAN'T BE TOO CAREFUL!
YOU MAY HAVE A FEW TRICKS YE— *WHAT THE?!*
FUMBLE
TRIP
SLIP
HAH! GOTCHA!
PRETTY LUCKY I SAW HER AT THE AIRPORT *AND* THAT WE BOTH FLEW IN FROM AFRICA *TOGETHER*—EH, PAL?
WE WERE *RIGHT* TO SUSPECT *FOUL PLAY* WHEN WE SAW YOUR UNCLE'S DOOR SMASHED TO BITS!
GOOD WORK! DID YOU GET THE RAM?
10
$

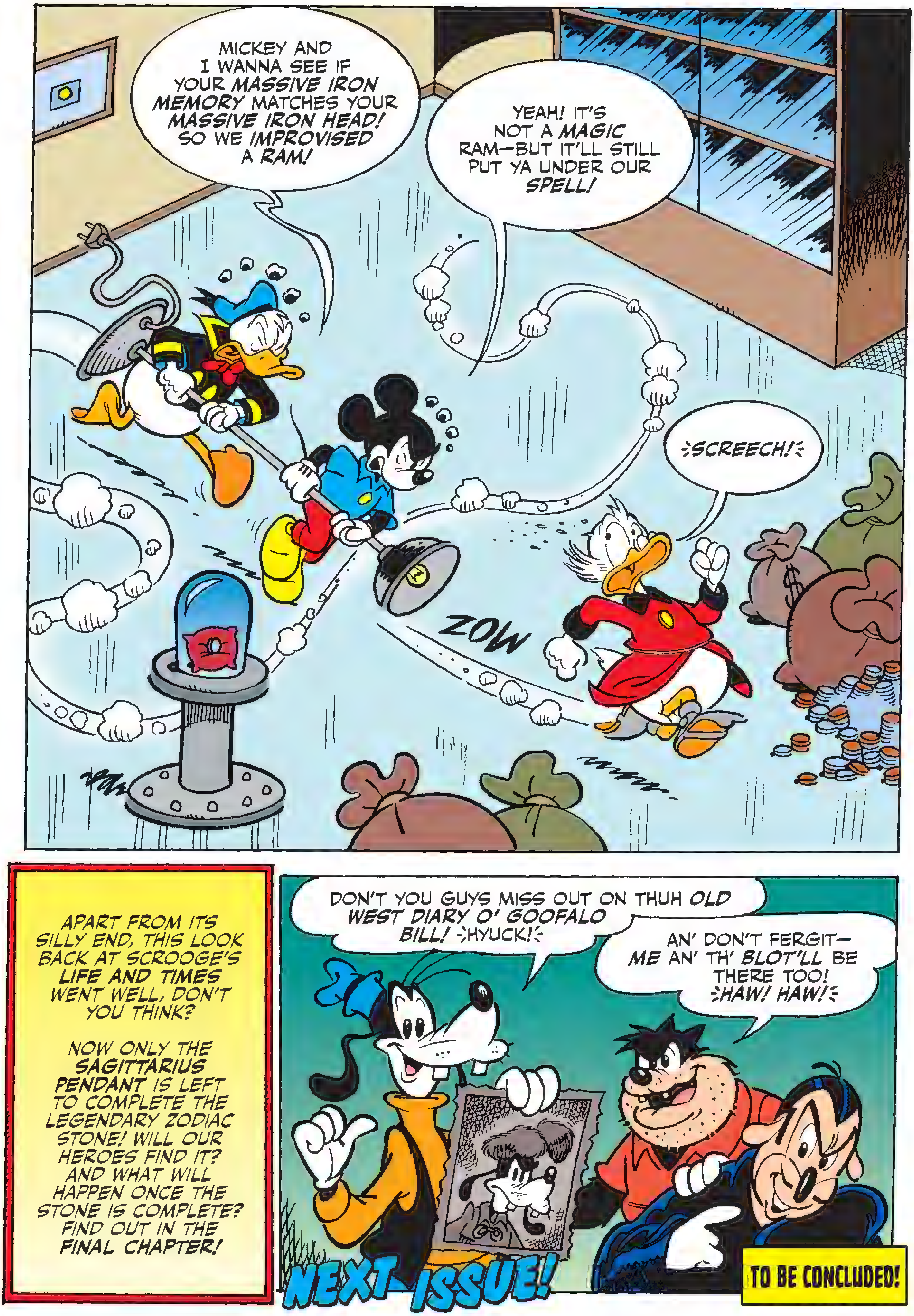

I ONLY GOT TH' *DIME*, SIR! WHAT RAM ARE YA TALKIN' ABOU—
CRASH
WHAM
THIS RAM!
YOUR JOKE WASN'T CUTE, *RAT!* GIVE ME THAT DIME *THIS INSTANT*... OR I START GETTING *ANGRY!*
ZIP
BOOOSH
TELL DONALD'S PAL TO DO AS I SAY, McDUCK—OR DO THE BEAGLES GET THE RAM?
GIVE HER THE DIME, MICKEY. THAT SORCERESS HAS GOT ME DEAD TO RIGHTS...


KRACKA DOOM!
HEY... WHY IS THAT RACKET SO CLOSE?
NOTHING YOU NEED TO WORRY ABOUT! THE LIGHTNING ROD ON MY BIN IS BROKEN! IT COSTS TOO MUCH TO FIX!
...
...
...
G-GOOD THING WE DIDN'T TRY TO WRECK THAT RAM, THEN, MICKEY! WITH MY BAD LUCK, ITS METAL HORNS WOULD ATTRACT—
LIGHTNING!
KA-ZAM
VICTORY!
WHAT WAS THAT?
CALL IT A FLASH OF LUCK... FOR ME! HAHA!
SCRAM!


WHY AM I OUT HERE? WHERE IS... MY TOTEM?
I KEPT ITS HORNS AS A *NEW* LIGHTNING ROD! OTHERWISE, THAT PILE OF *ASH* IS ALL THAT'S LEFT!
GIVE THE BEAGLES MY REGARDS, "DARLING"!
BAH! FIRST I'M GONNA *GET* THE GUY WHO SAID NIGHTS OF BAD WEATHER ARE *GOOD* FOR WITCHCRAFT! *SNARL!*
GIT!
HA! I *ALMOST* FEEL SORRY FOR MAGICA! I'LL *NEVER* GIVE HER MY DIME... BUT MAN, IS IT FUN MESSING WITH HER!
OL' NUMBER ONE'S THE MOST IMPORTANT COIN YA OWN, RIGHT?

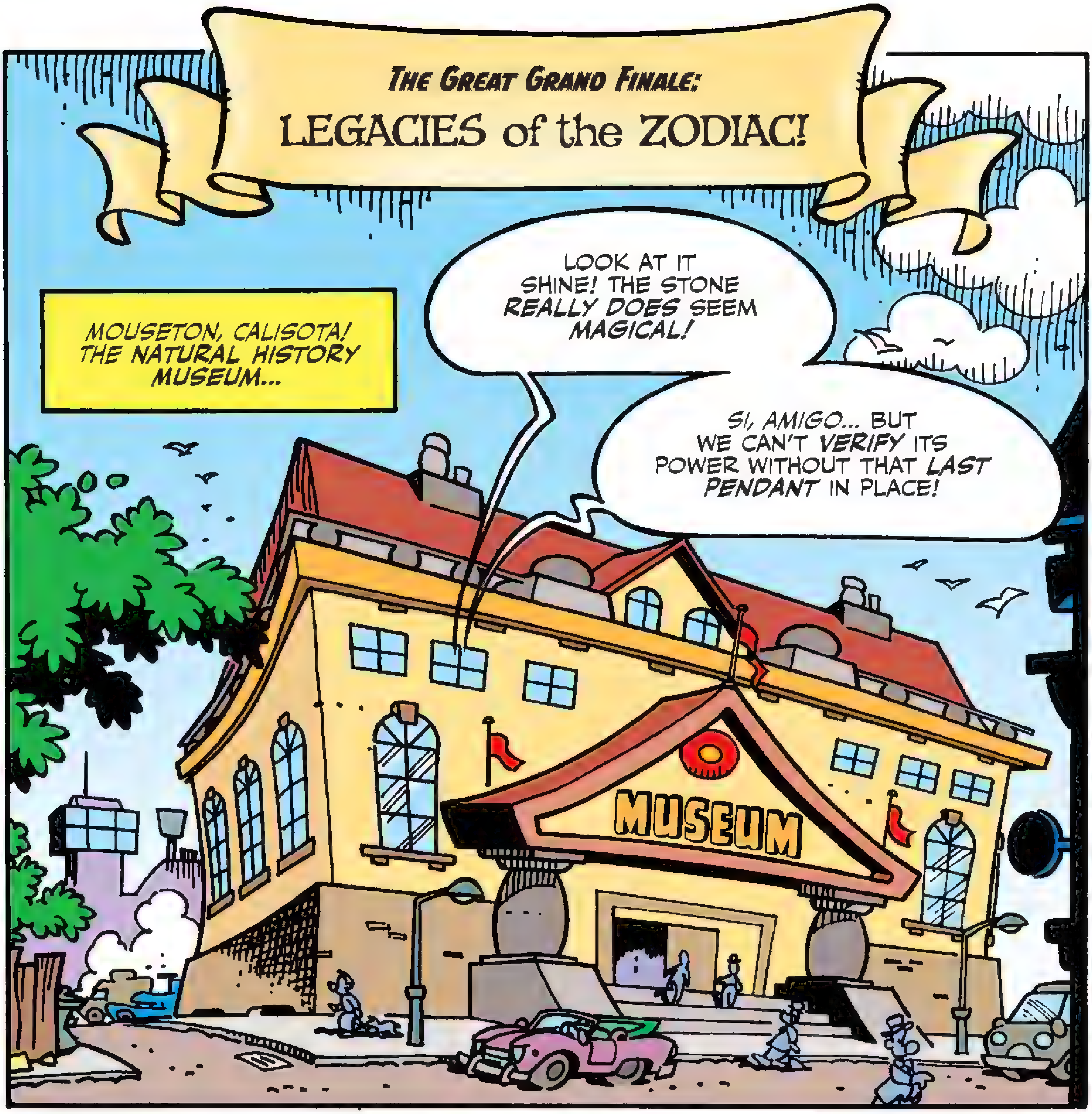

AYE, LAD! IT MEANS THE WORLD TO ME.
MWAH
IT'S THE *SYMBOL* OF MY FORTUNE! THE FIRST COIN I EARNED WITH MY OWN LABOR—AND IT TAUGHT ME TO MAKE MY MONEY *SQUARE!*
GOSH, SIR! YA OWN A LOT O' LUCKY CHARMS!
13
YEAH! HOW COME YOU OWN SO MANY, UNK?
FEH! LUCK IS FOR *FOOLS!* THOSE TRINKETS DON'T HOLD A CANDLE TO WHAT MY DIME STANDS FOR!
AND YOU KNOW MY TROPHY ROOM ONLY HOLDS *CHERISHED MEMORIES!* THIS HORSESHOE WAS WORN BY MY *SECOND* FAITHFUL STEED—THE DAY I DISCOVERED THE *"STAR OF THE WORLD"* DIAMOND MINE!
AND THIS SHARK'S TOOTH— OH!

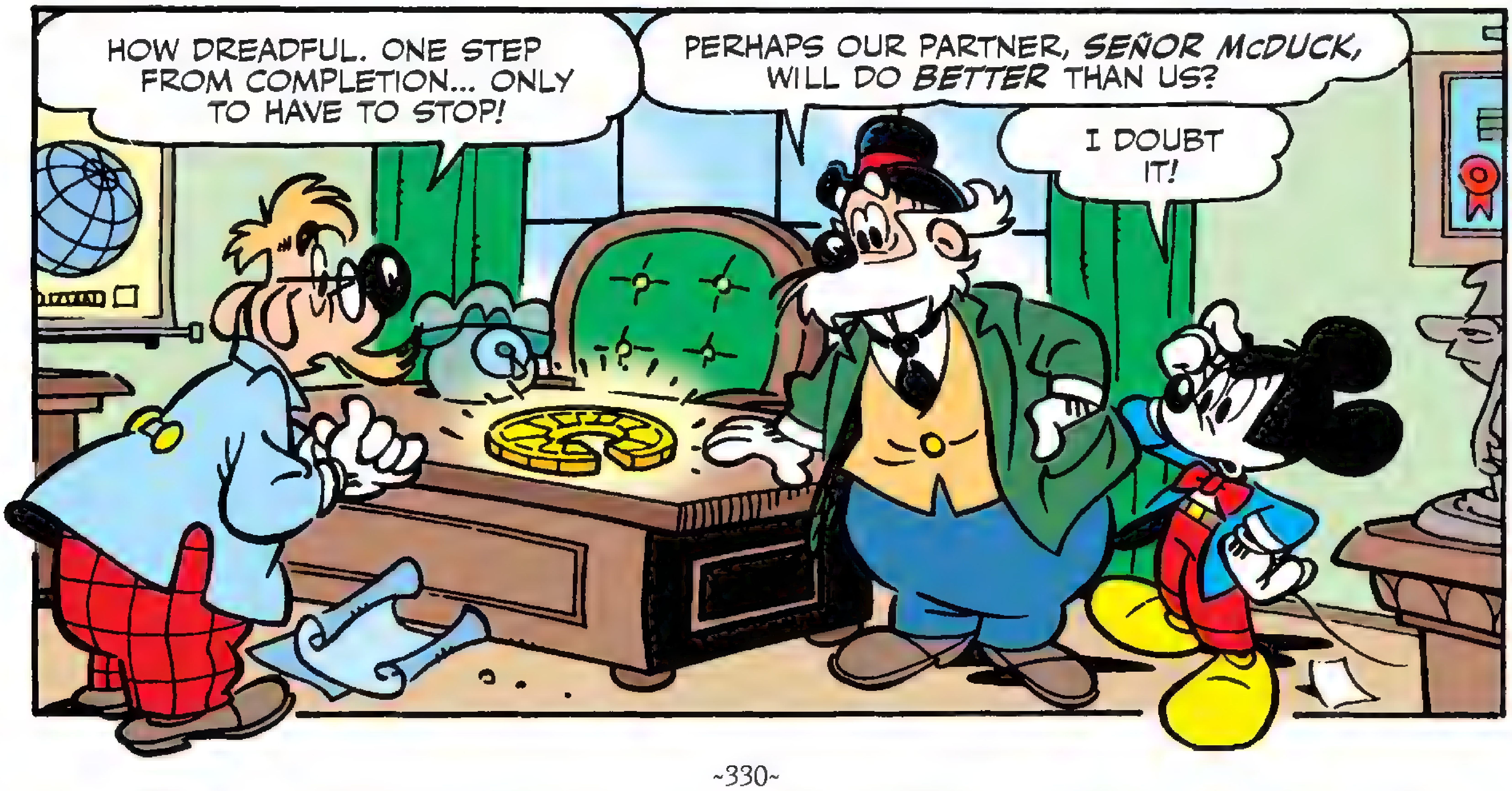

BLESS MY BAGPIPES...
!?
HAVE I OWNED THIS SILLY THING ALL ALONG?
SMOLEY HOKES... *THE ARIES PENDANT!*
H-HOW?! *WHY?!?*
ER... *NOW* I REMEMBER. WHEN MARLEY AND I SPLIT, WE WERE STILL EACH OTHER'S ONLY PALS—SO HE GAVE THIS RAM TO ME AS A TOKEN... OF OUR FRIENDSHIP!
"MASSIVE IRON MEMORY," MY FEATHERED FANNY!
SO WHILE WE TURNED TH' WORLD UPSIDE DOWN, IT WAS IN TH' BIN *THIS ENTIRE TIME!*
UH... *YOU'RE* BOTH FRIENDS! THINK OF *YOUR* TIME SPENT TOGE— HOLD ON, *WHAT ARE YOU LADS DOING?*

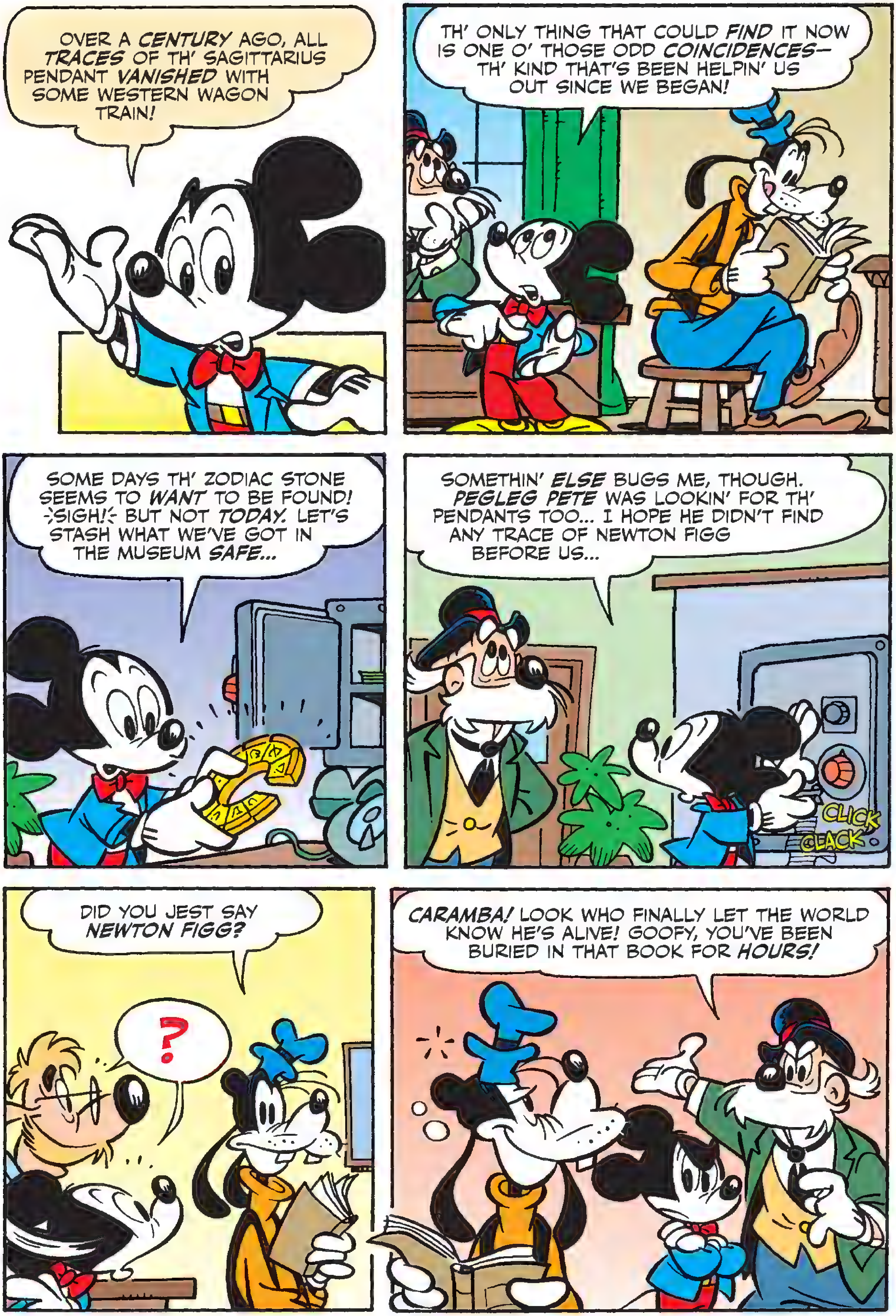

MICKEY AND I WANNA SEE IF YOUR *MASSIVE IRON MEMORY* MATCHES YOUR *MASSIVE IRON HEAD!* SO WE *IMPROVISED* A *RAM!*
YEAH! IT'S NOT A *MAGIC* RAM—BUT IT'LL STILL PUT YA UNDER OUR *SPELL!*
SCREECH!
ZOW
APART FROM ITS SILLY END, THIS LOOK BACK AT SCROOGE'S **LIFE AND TIMES** WENT WELL, DON'T YOU THINK?
NOW ONLY THE **SAGITTARIUS PENDANT** IS LEFT TO COMPLETE THE LEGENDARY ZODIAC STONE! WILL OUR HEROES FIND IT? AND WHAT WILL HAPPEN ONCE THE STONE IS COMPLETE? FIND OUT IN THE **FINAL CHAPTER!**
DON'T YOU GUYS MISS OUT ON THUH *OLD WEST DIARY O' GOOFALO BILL!* HYUCK!
AN' DON'T FERGIT— *ME* AN' TH' *BLOT'LL* BE THERE TOO! *HAW! HAW!*
NEXT ISSUE!
TO BE CONCLUDED!

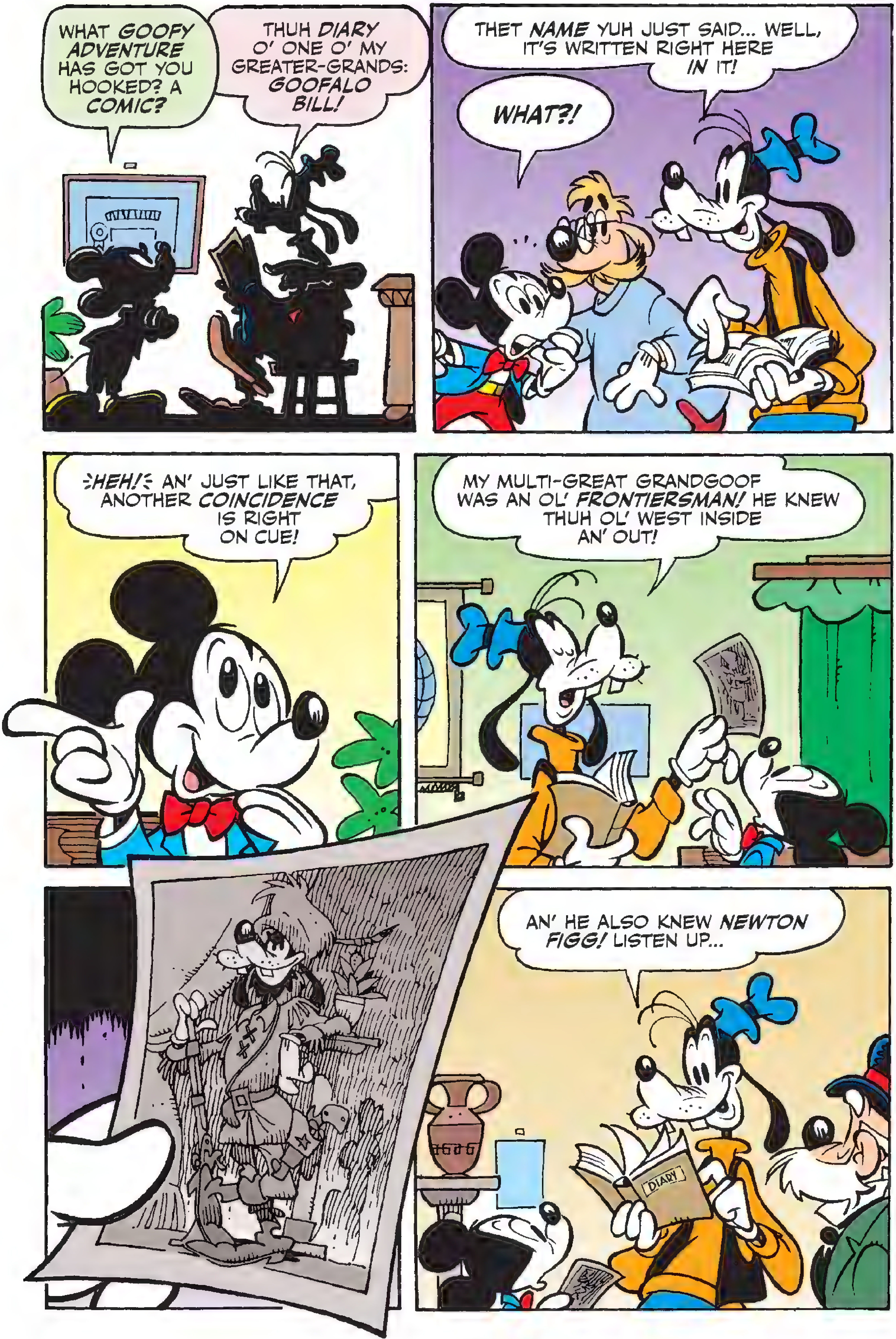
Walt Disney
PRESENTS:
the SEARCH FOR THE ZODIAC STONE
SAGITTARIUS
AN EPIC YARN OF MICE AND DUCKS!
AFTER ELEVEN BREATHTAKING ADVENTURES, ONLY THE SAGITTARIUS PENDANT REMAINS MISSING IN MICKEY MOUSE AND SCROOGE McDUCK'S QUEST TO COMPLETE THE LEGENDARY ZODIAC STONE—A MAGICAL TALISMAN THAT LETS ITS USER SEE INTO THE FUTURE...
J-1791

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN TOPOLINO #1791 (ITALY, 1990)


THE GREAT GRAND FINALE:
LEGACIES of the ZODIAC!
MOUSETON, CALISOTA! THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM...
LOOK AT IT SHINE! THE STONE REALLY DOES SEEM MAGICAL!
SI, AMIGO... BUT WE CAN'T VERIFY ITS POWER WITHOUT THAT LAST PENDANT IN PLACE!
MUSEUM

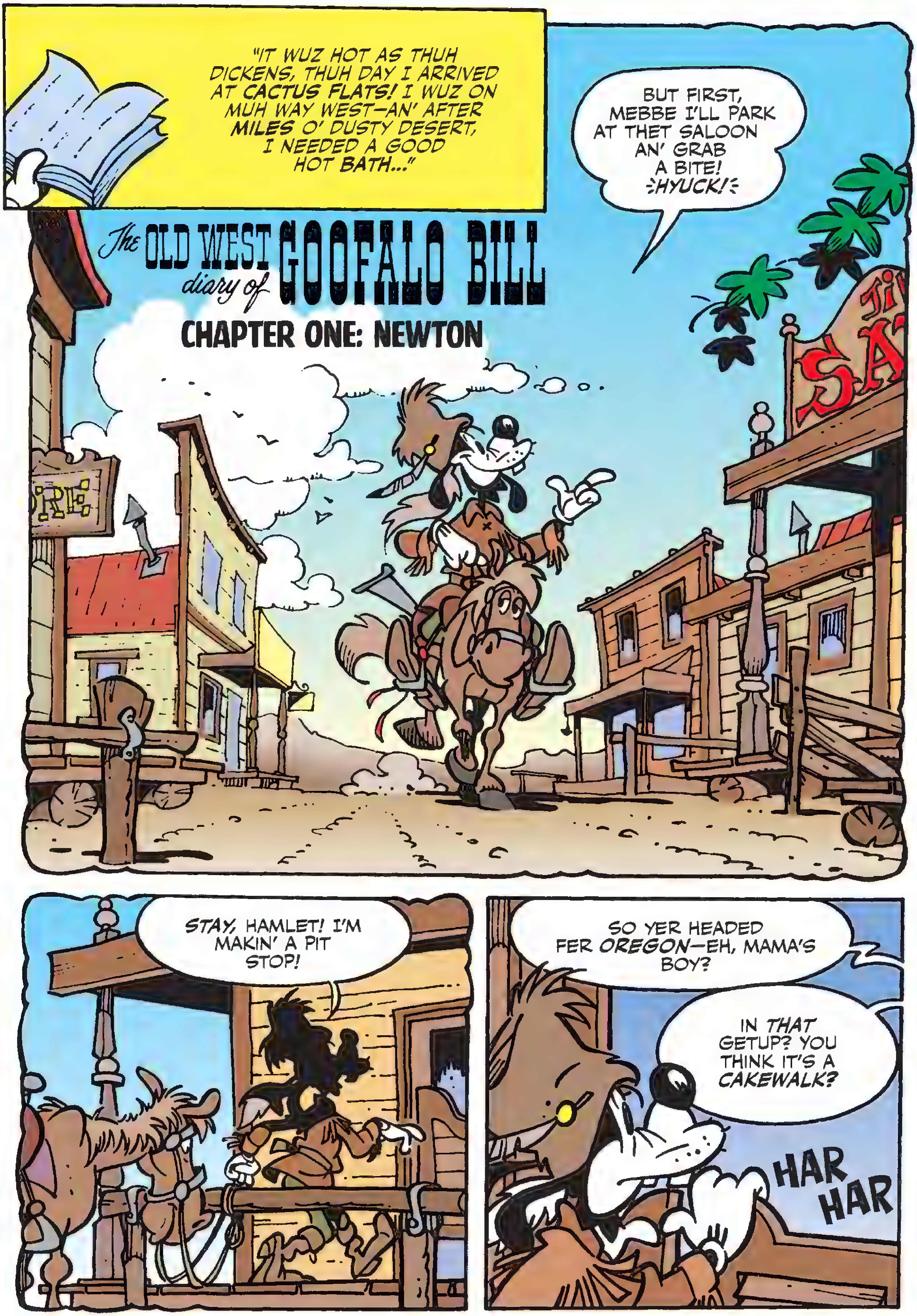

HOW DREADFUL. ONE STEP FROM COMPLETION... ONLY TO HAVE TO STOP!
PERHAPS OUR PARTNER, SEÑOR McDUCK, WILL DO BETTER THAN US?
I DOUBT IT!

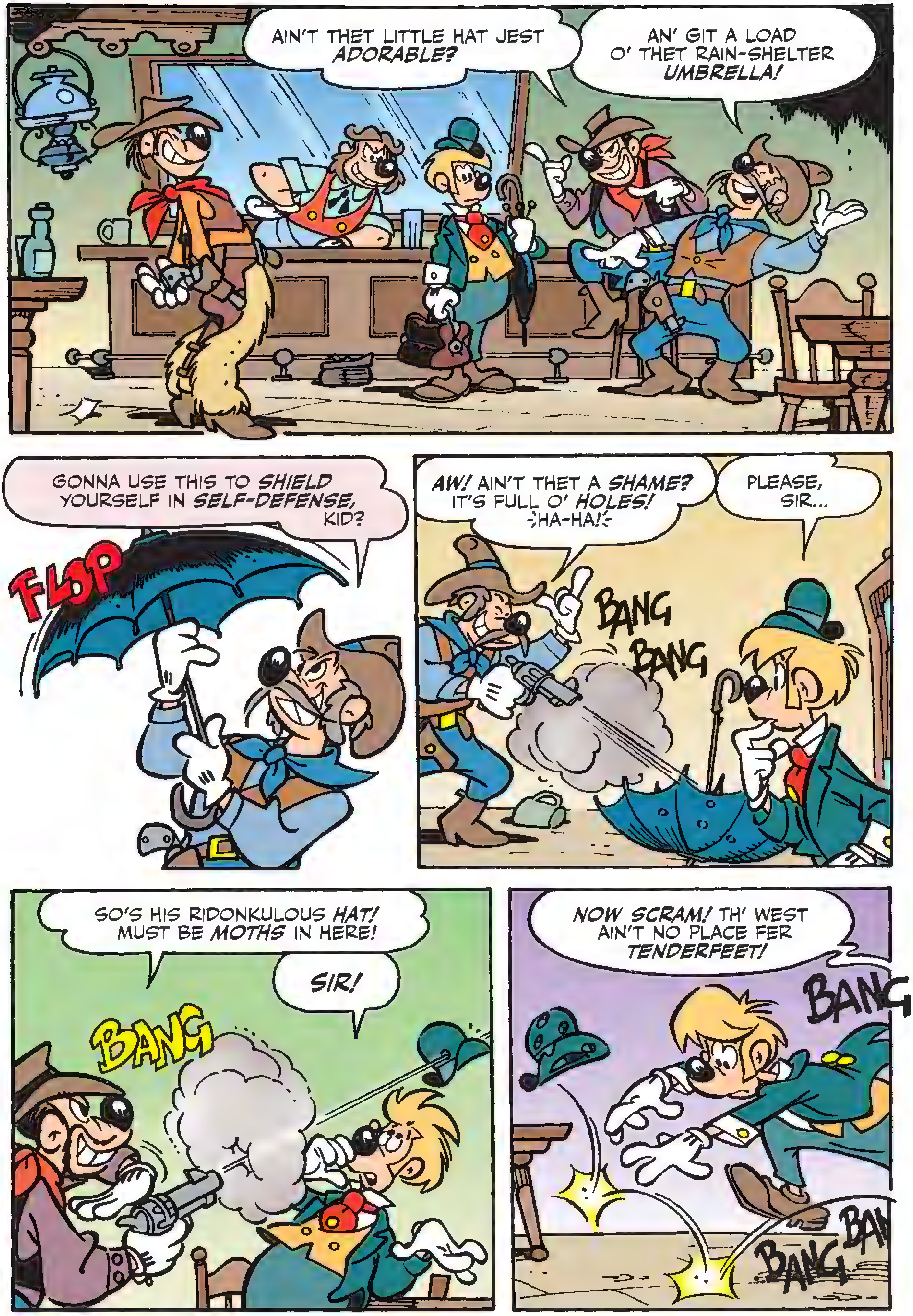

OVER A *CENTURY* AGO, ALL *TRACES* OF TH' SAGITTARIUS PENDANT *VANISHED* WITH SOME WESTERN WAGON TRAIN!
TH' ONLY THING THAT COULD *FIND* IT NOW IS ONE O' THOSE ODD *COINCIDENCES*— TH' KIND THAT'S BEEN HELPIN' US OUT SINCE WE BEGAN!
SOME DAYS TH' ZODIAC STONE SEEMS TO *WANT* TO BE FOUND! ⁂SIGH!⁂ BUT NOT *TODAY.* LET'S STASH WHAT WE'VE GOT IN THE MUSEUM *SAFE...*
SOMETHIN' *ELSE* BUGS ME, THOUGH. *PEGLEG PETE* WAS LOOKIN' FOR TH' PENDANTS TOO... I HOPE HE DIDN'T FIND ANY TRACE OF NEWTON FIGG BEFORE US...
CLICK
CLACK
DID YOU JEST SAY *NEWTON FIGG?*
?
CARAMBA! LOOK WHO FINALLY LET THE WORLD KNOW HE'S ALIVE! GOOFY, YOU'VE BEEN BURIED IN THAT BOOK FOR *HOURS!*

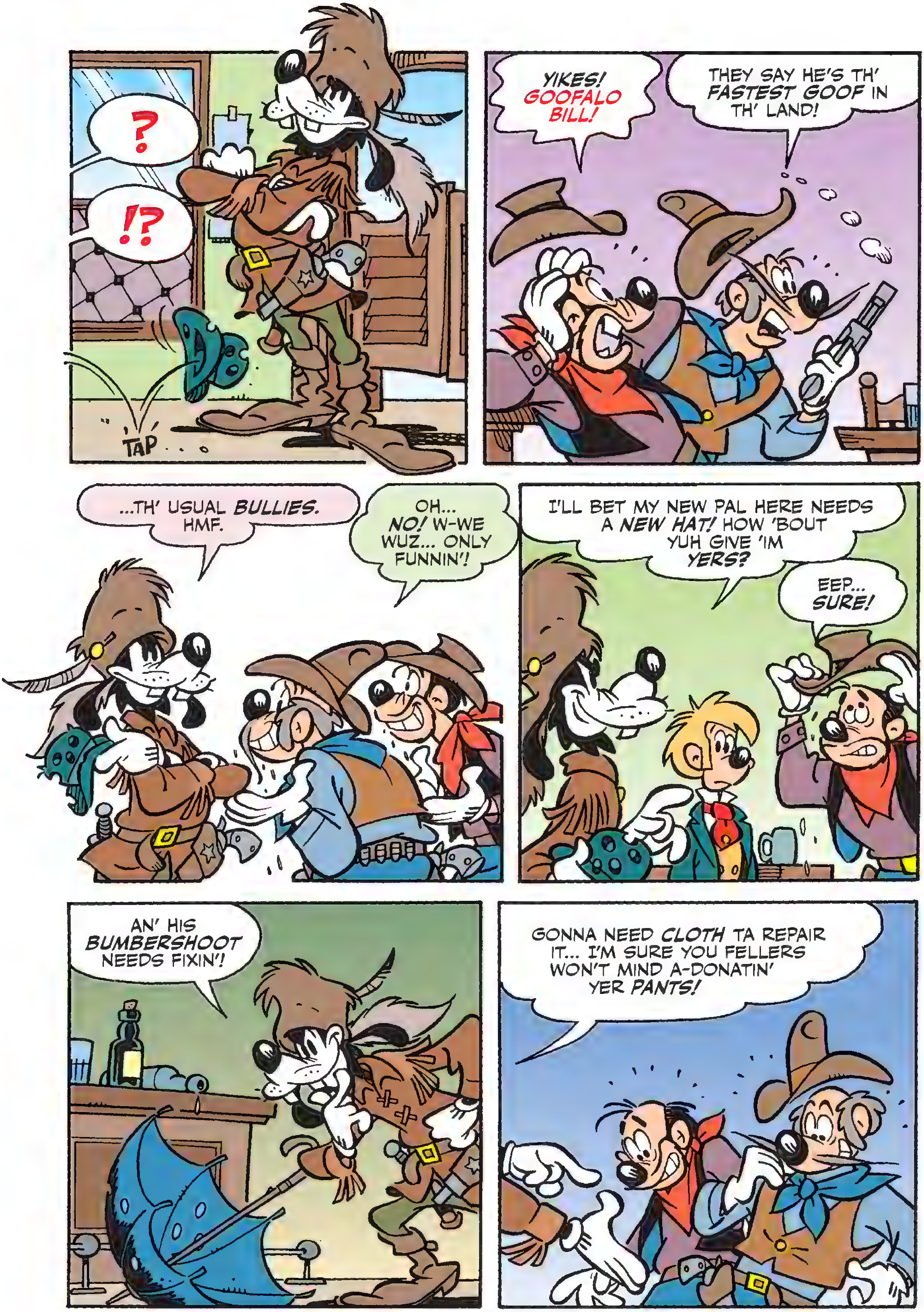

WHAT GOOFY ADVENTURE HAS GOT YOU HOOKED? A COMIC?
THUH DIARY O' ONE O' MY GREATER-GRANDS: GOOFALO BILL!
THET NAME YUH JUST SAID... WELL, IT'S WRITTEN RIGHT HERE IN IT!
WHAT?!
:HEH!: AN' JUST LIKE THAT, ANOTHER COINCIDENCE IS RIGHT ON CUE!
MY MULTI-GREAT GRANDGOOF WAS AN OL' FRONTIERSMAN! HE KNEW THUH OL' WEST INSIDE AN' OUT!
AN' HE ALSO KNEW NEWTON FIGG! LISTEN UP...
DIARY

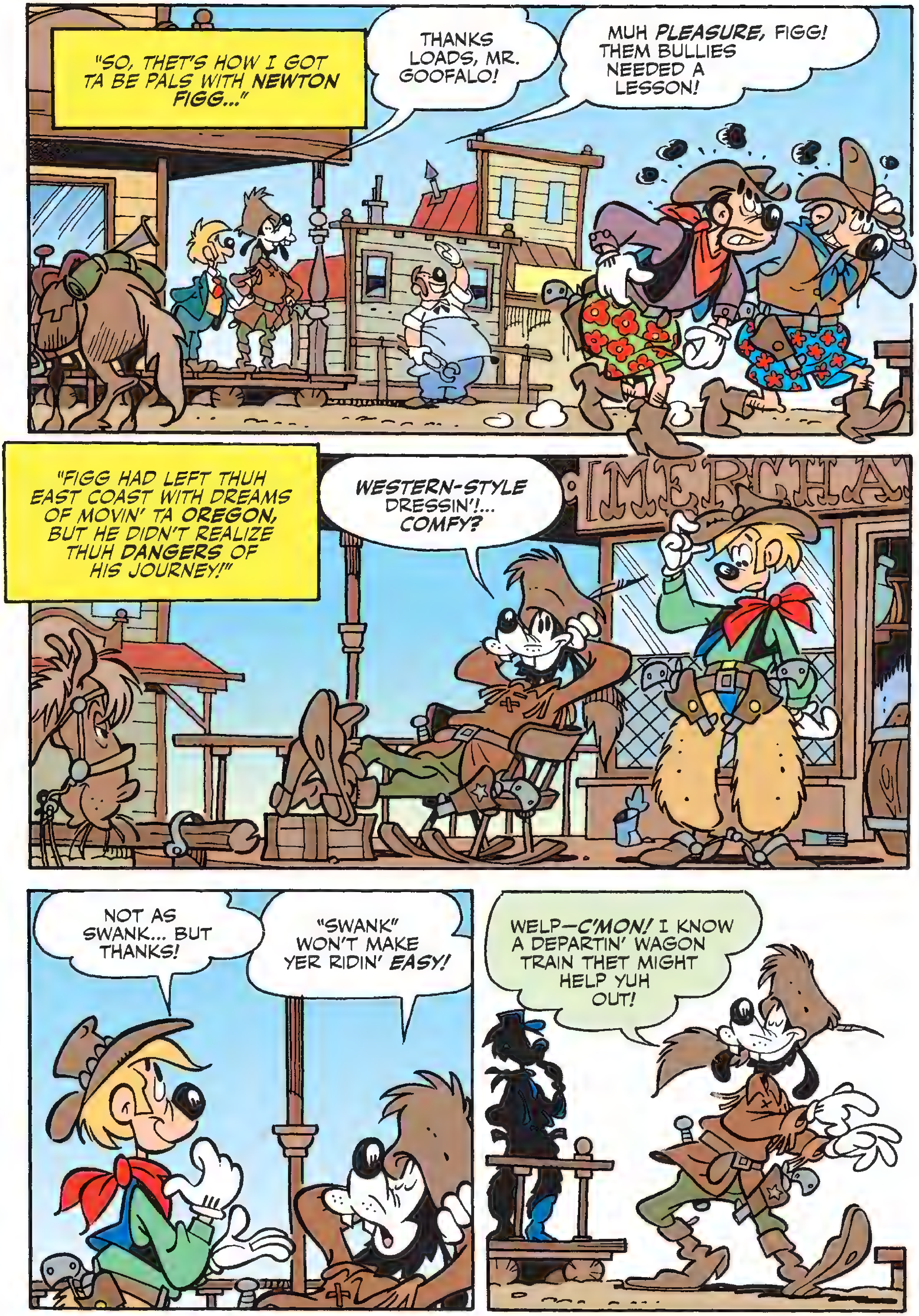
The OLD WEST diary of GOOFALO BILL

CHAPTER ONE: NEWTON


"IT WUZ HOT AS THUH DICKENS, THUH DAY I ARRIVED AT CACTUS FLATS! I WUZ ON MUH WAY WEST—AN' AFTER MILES O' DUSTY DESERT, I NEEDED A GOOD HOT BATH..."
BUT FIRST, MEBBE I'LL PARK AT THET SALOON AN' GRAB A BITE! HYUCK!
STAY, HAMLET! I'M MAKIN' A PIT STOP!
SO YER HEADED FER OREGON—EH, MAMA'S BOY?
IN THAT GETUP? YOU THINK IT'S A CAKEWALK?
HAR HAR

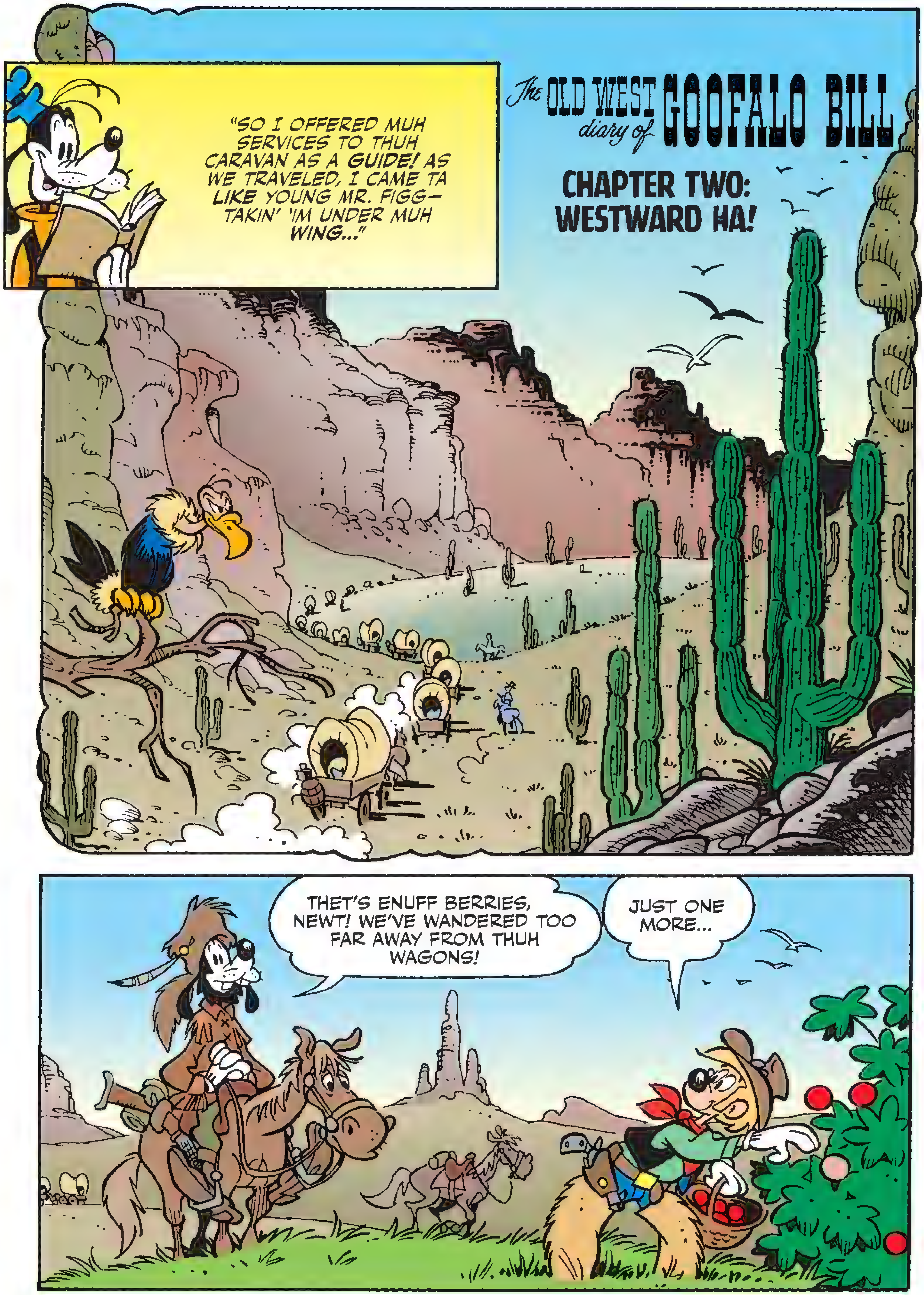

AIN'T THET LITTLE HAT JEST *ADORABLE?*
AN' GIT A LOAD O' THET RAIN-SHELTER *UMBRELLA!*
GONNA USE THIS TO *SHIELD* YOURSELF IN *SELF-DEFENSE,* KID?
FLOP
AW! AIN'T THET A *SHAME?* IT'S FULL O' *HOLES!* -HA-HA!-
PLEASE, SIR...
BANG
BANG
SO'S HIS RIDONKULOUS *HAT!* MUST BE *MOTHS* IN HERE!
SIR!
BANG
NOW SCRAM! TH' WEST AIN'T NO PLACE FER *TENDERFEET!*
BANG
BANG
BAN

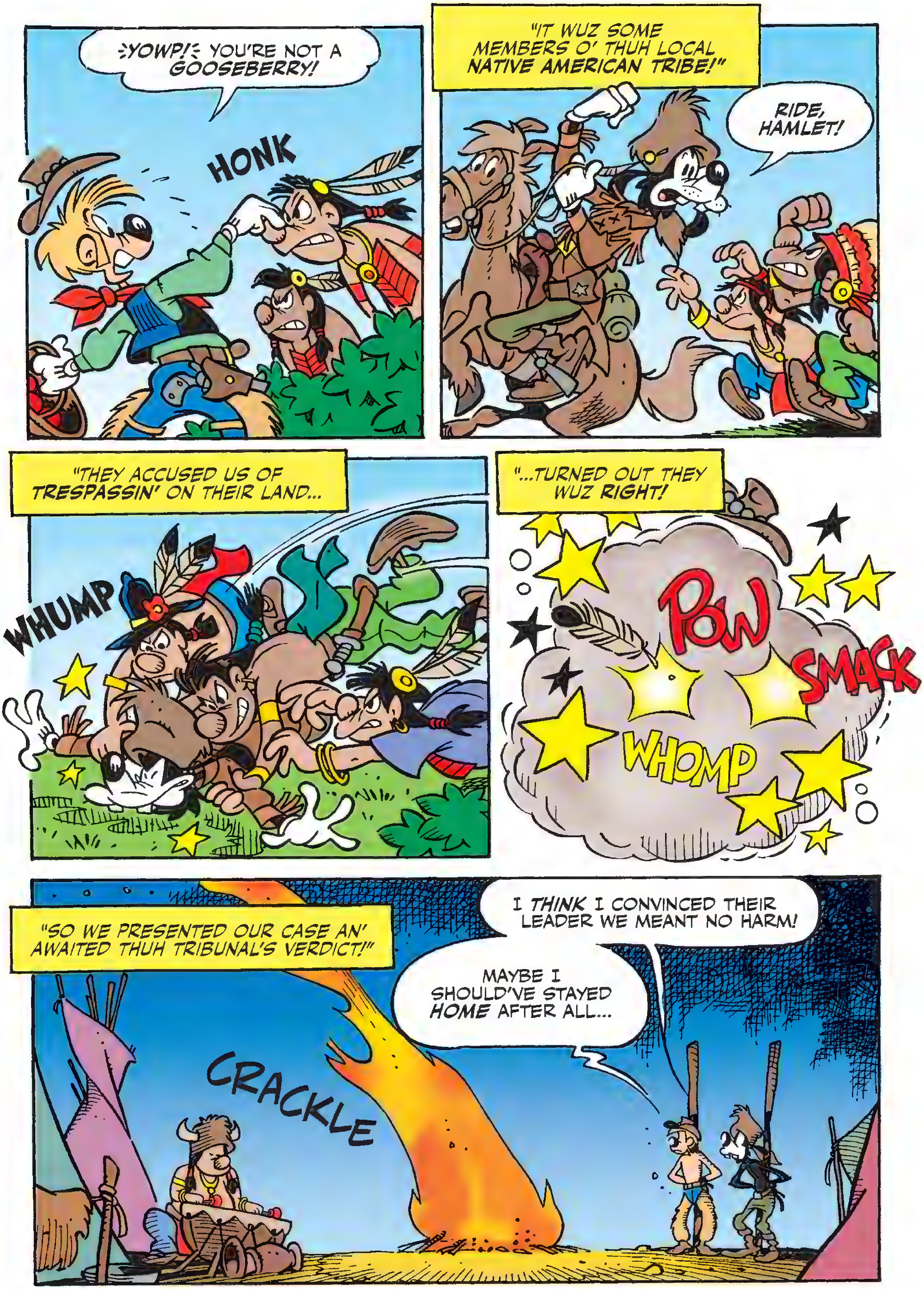

?
!?
TAP . . .
YIKES! GOOFALO BILL!
THEY SAY HE'S TH' FASTEST GOOF IN TH' LAND!
...TH' USUAL BULLIES. HMF.
OH... NO! W-WE WUZ... ONLY FUNNIN'!
I'LL BET MY NEW PAL HERE NEEDS A NEW HAT! HOW 'BOUT YUH GIVE 'IM YERS?
EEP... SURE!
AN' HIS BUMBERSHOOT NEEDS FIXIN'!
GONNA NEED CLOTH TA REPAIR IT... I'M SURE YOU FELLERS WON'T MIND A-DONATIN' YER PANTS!

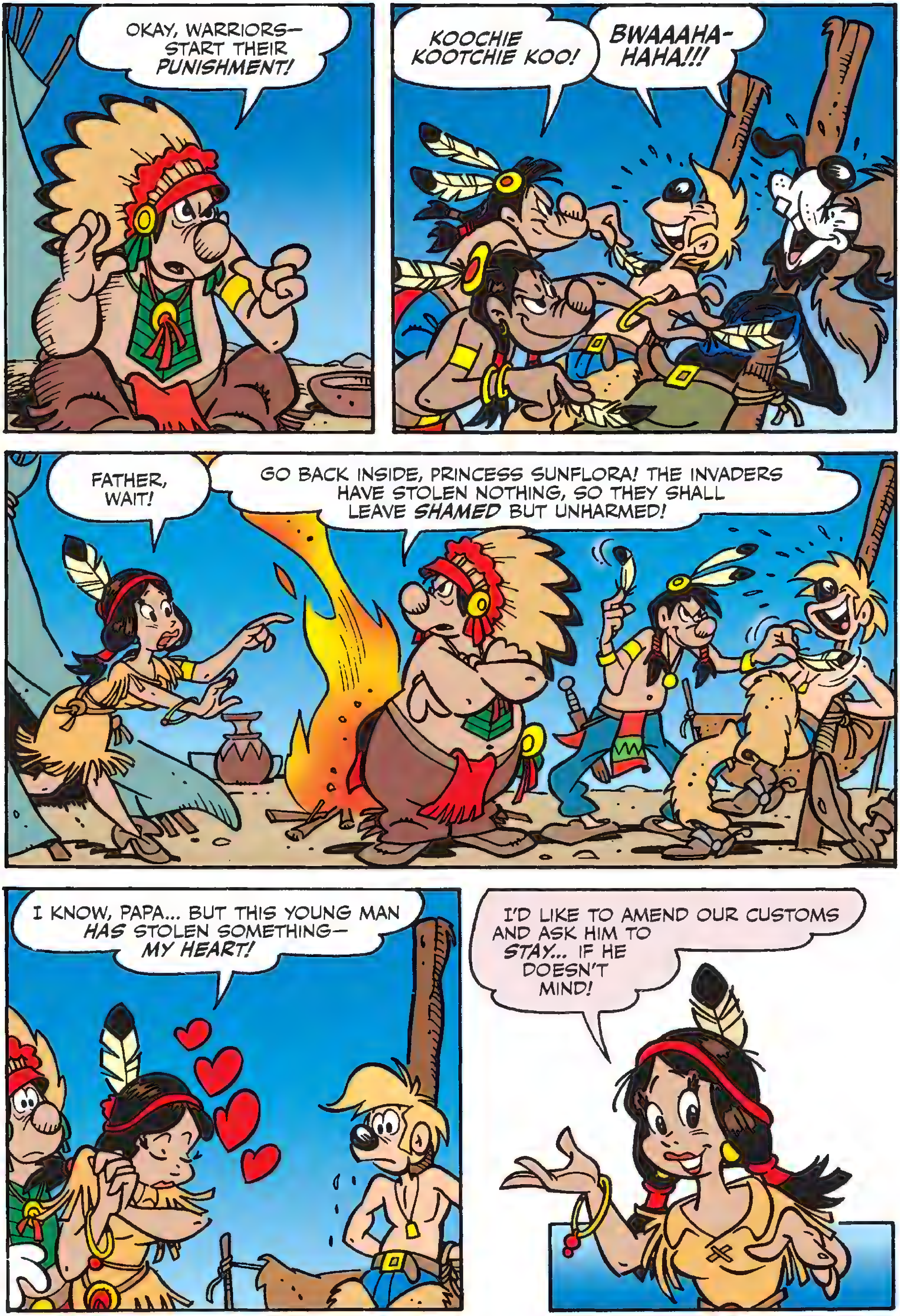

"SO, THET'S HOW I GOT TA BE PALS WITH NEWTON FIGG..."
THANKS LOADS, MR. GOOFALO!
MUH PLEASURE, FIGG! THEM BULLIES NEEDED A LESSON!
"FIGG HAD LEFT THUH EAST COAST WITH DREAMS OF MOVIN' TA OREGON, BUT HE DIDN'T REALIZE THUH DANGERS OF HIS JOURNEY!"
WESTERN-STYLE DRESSIN'!... COMFY?
MERCHA
NOT AS SWANK... BUT THANKS!
"SWANK" WON'T MAKE YER RIDIN' EASY!
WELP—C'MON! I KNOW A DEPARTIN' WAGON TRAIN THET MIGHT HELP YUH OUT!

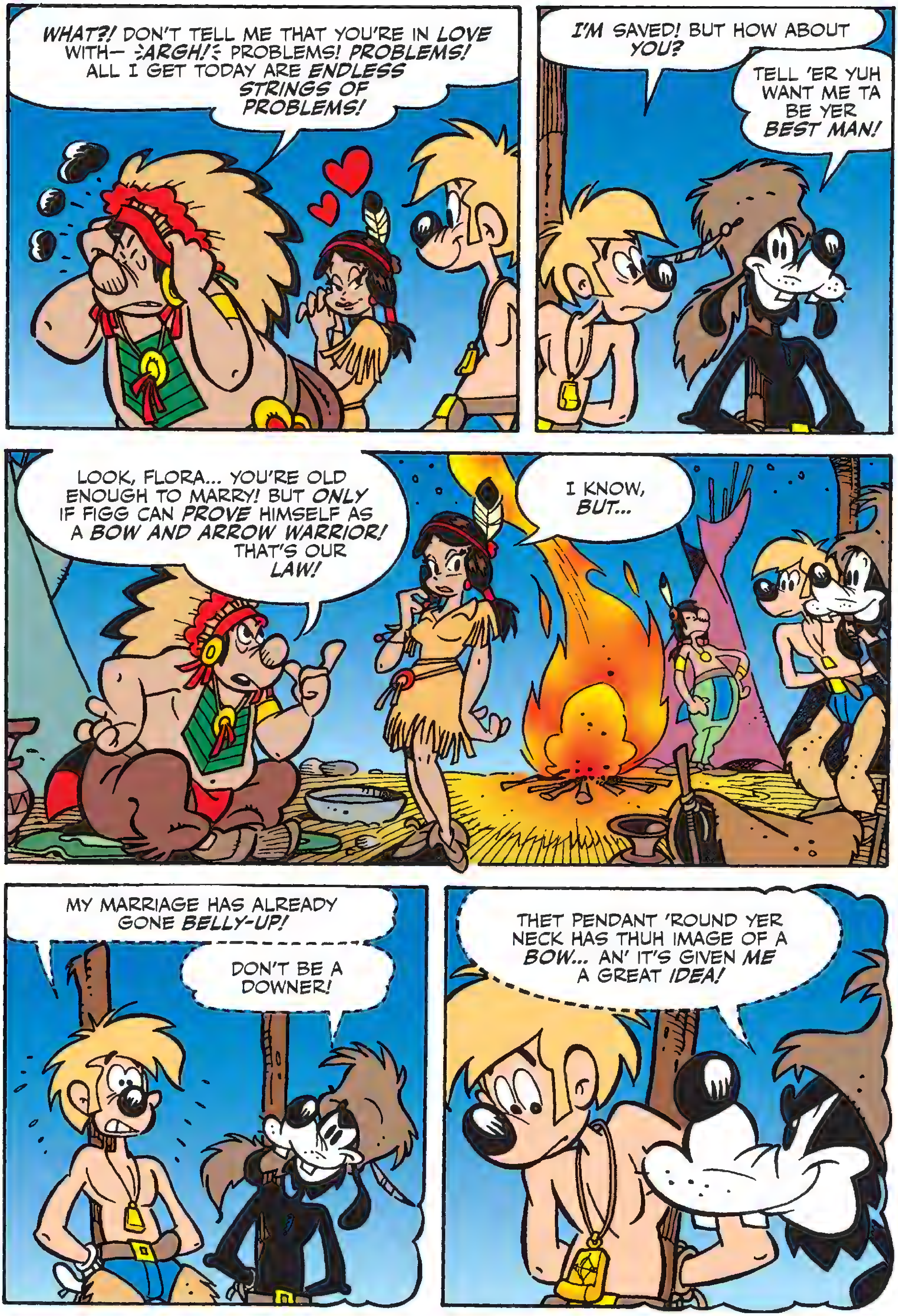
The OLD WEST diary of GOOFALO BILL

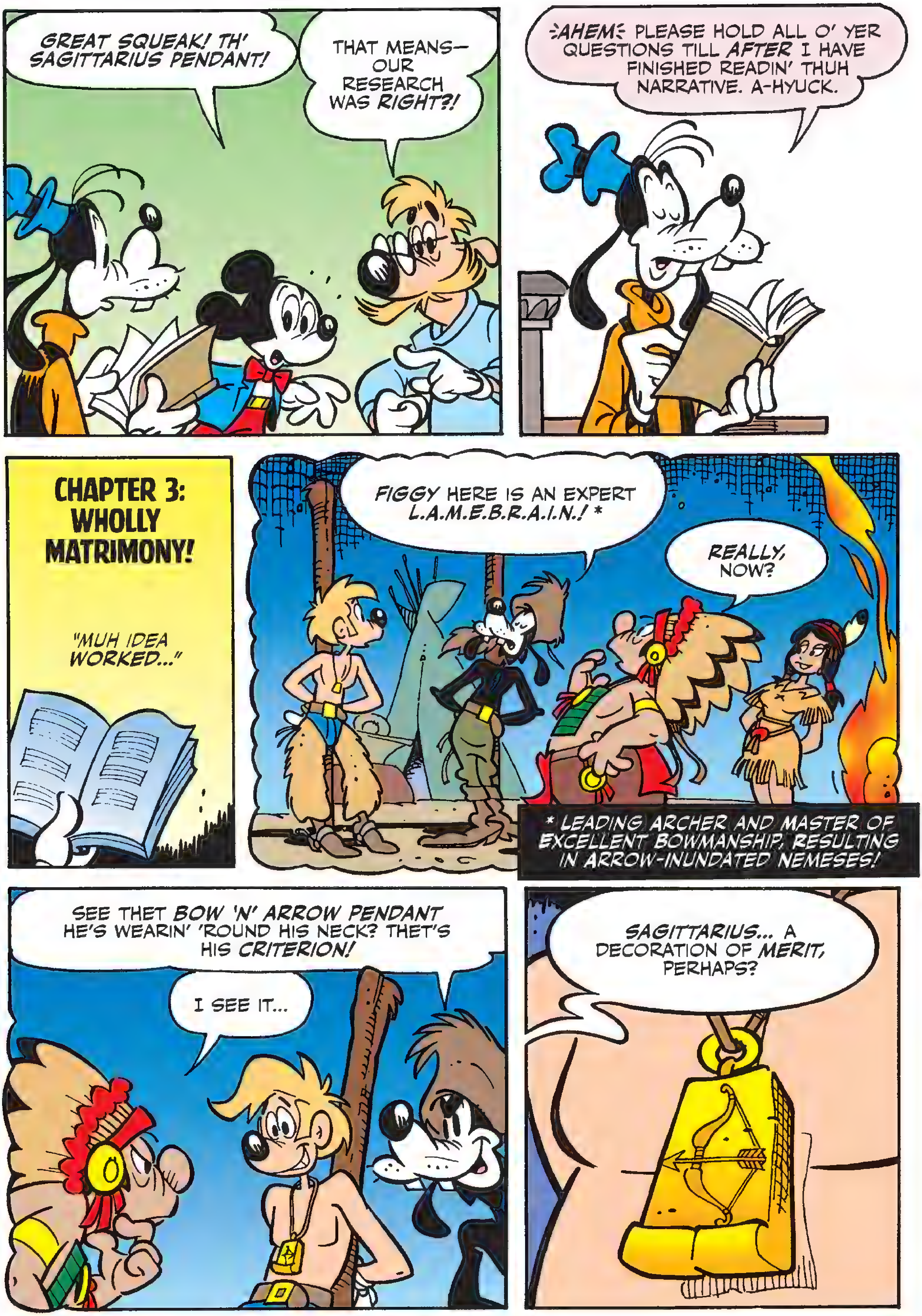
CHAPTER TWO: WESTWARD HA!

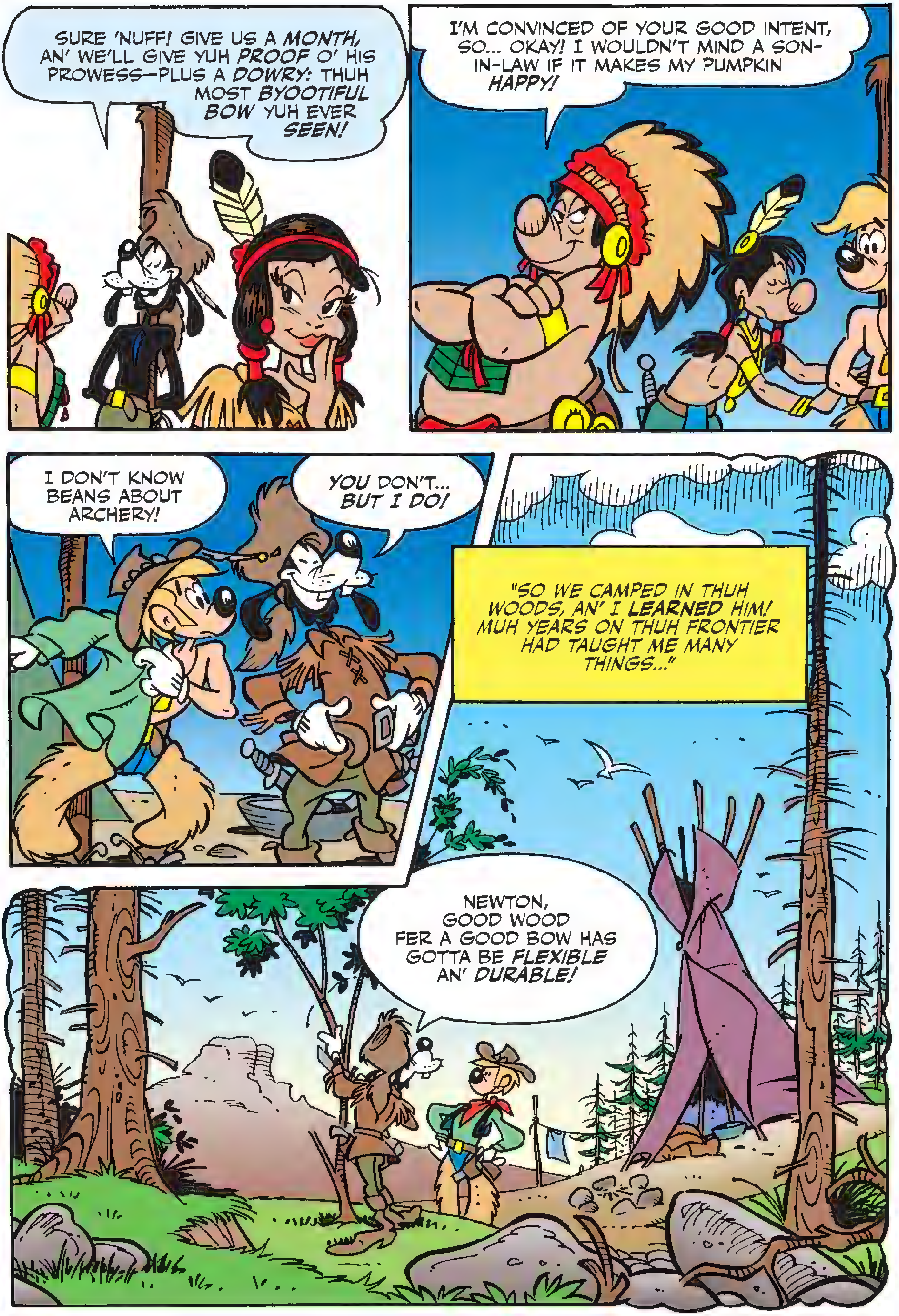

"SO I OFFERED MUH SERVICES TO THUH CARAVAN AS A GUIDE! AS WE TRAVELED, I CAME TA LIKE YOUNG MR. FIGG— TAKIN' 'IM UNDER MUH WING..."
THET'S ENUFF BERRIES, NEWT! WE'VE WANDERED TOO FAR AWAY FROM THUH WAGONS!
JUST ONE MORE...

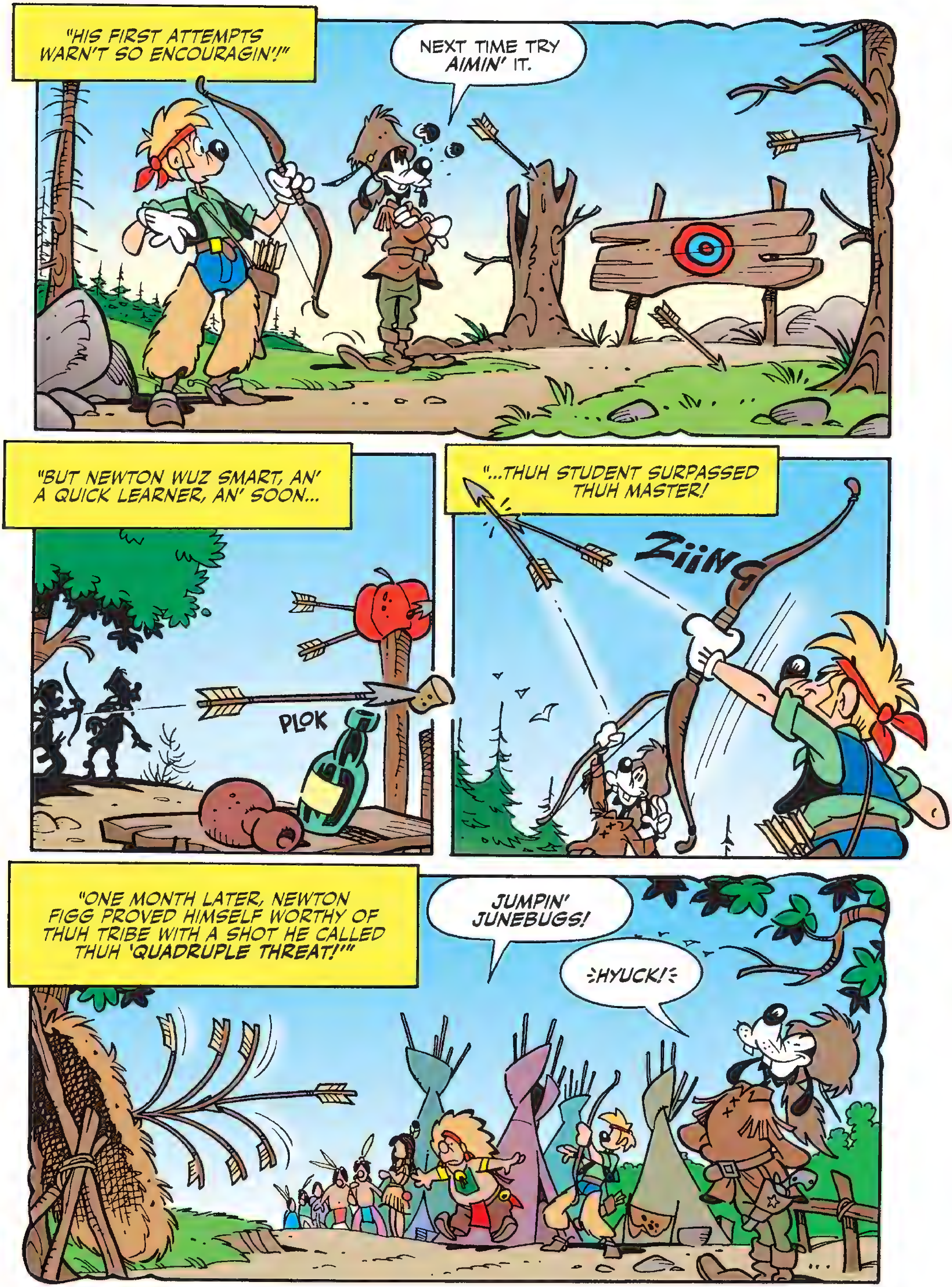

⪢YOWP!⪡ YOU'RE NOT A GOOSEBERRY!
HONK
"IT WUZ SOME MEMBERS O' THUH LOCAL NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBE!"
RIDE, HAMLET!
"THEY ACCUSED US OF TRESPASSIN' ON THEIR LAND...
WHUMP
"...TURNED OUT THEY WUZ RIGHT!
POW
SMACK
WHOMP
"SO WE PRESENTED OUR CASE AN' AWAITED THUH TRIBUNAL'S VERDICT!"
I THINK I CONVINCED THEIR LEADER WE MEANT NO HARM!
MAYBE I SHOULD'VE STAYED HOME AFTER ALL...
CRACKLE

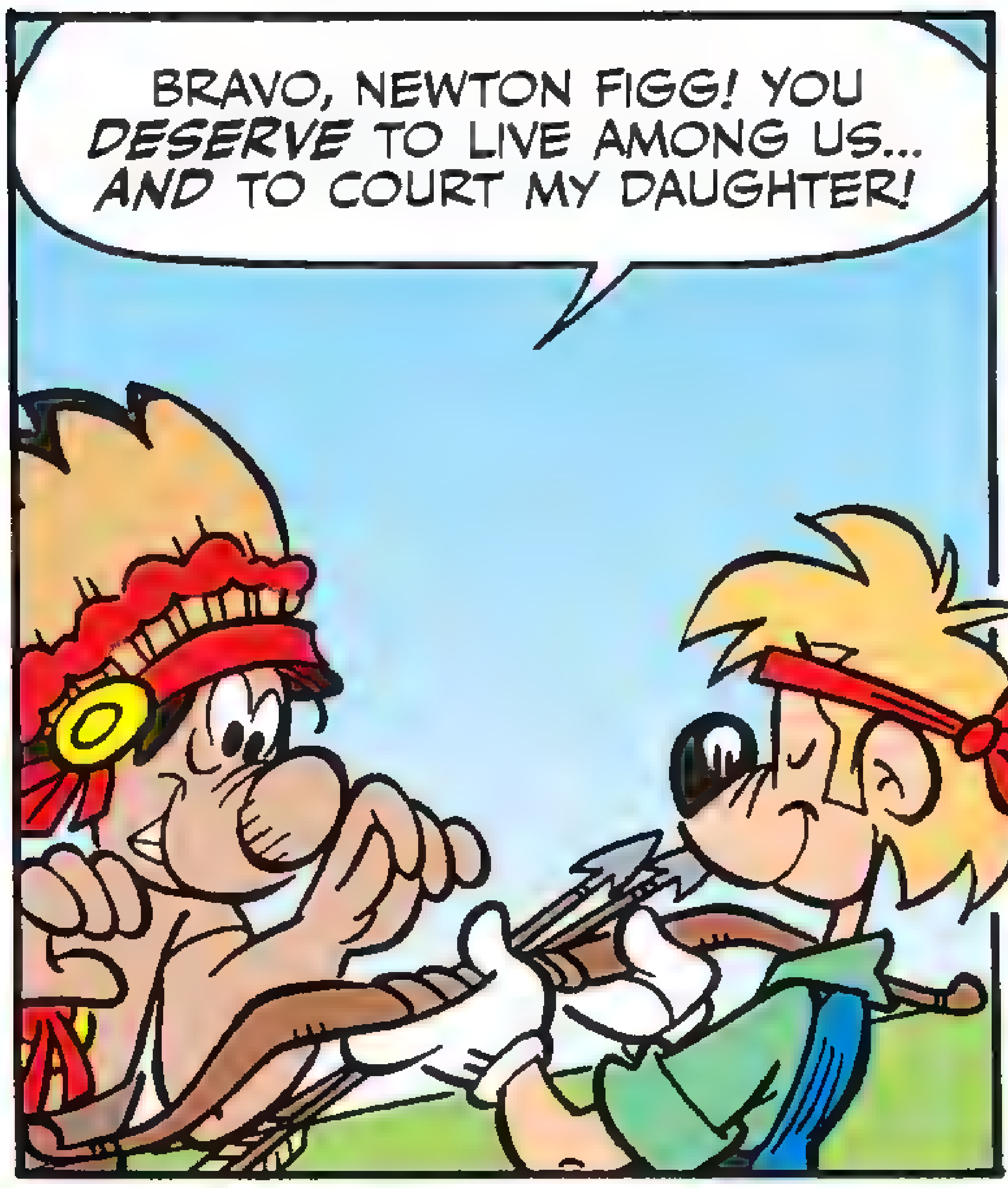

OKAY, WARRIORS— START THEIR *PUNISHMENT!*
KOOCHIE KOOTCHIE KOO!
BWAAAHA-HAHA!!!
FATHER, WAIT!
GO BACK INSIDE, PRINCESS SUNFLORA! THE INVADERS HAVE STOLEN NOTHING, SO THEY SHALL LEAVE *SHAMED* BUT UNHARMED!
I KNOW, PAPA... BUT THIS YOUNG MAN *HAS* STOLEN SOMETHING— *MY HEART!*
I'D LIKE TO AMEND OUR CUSTOMS AND ASK HIM TO *STAY...* IF HE DOESN'T MIND!

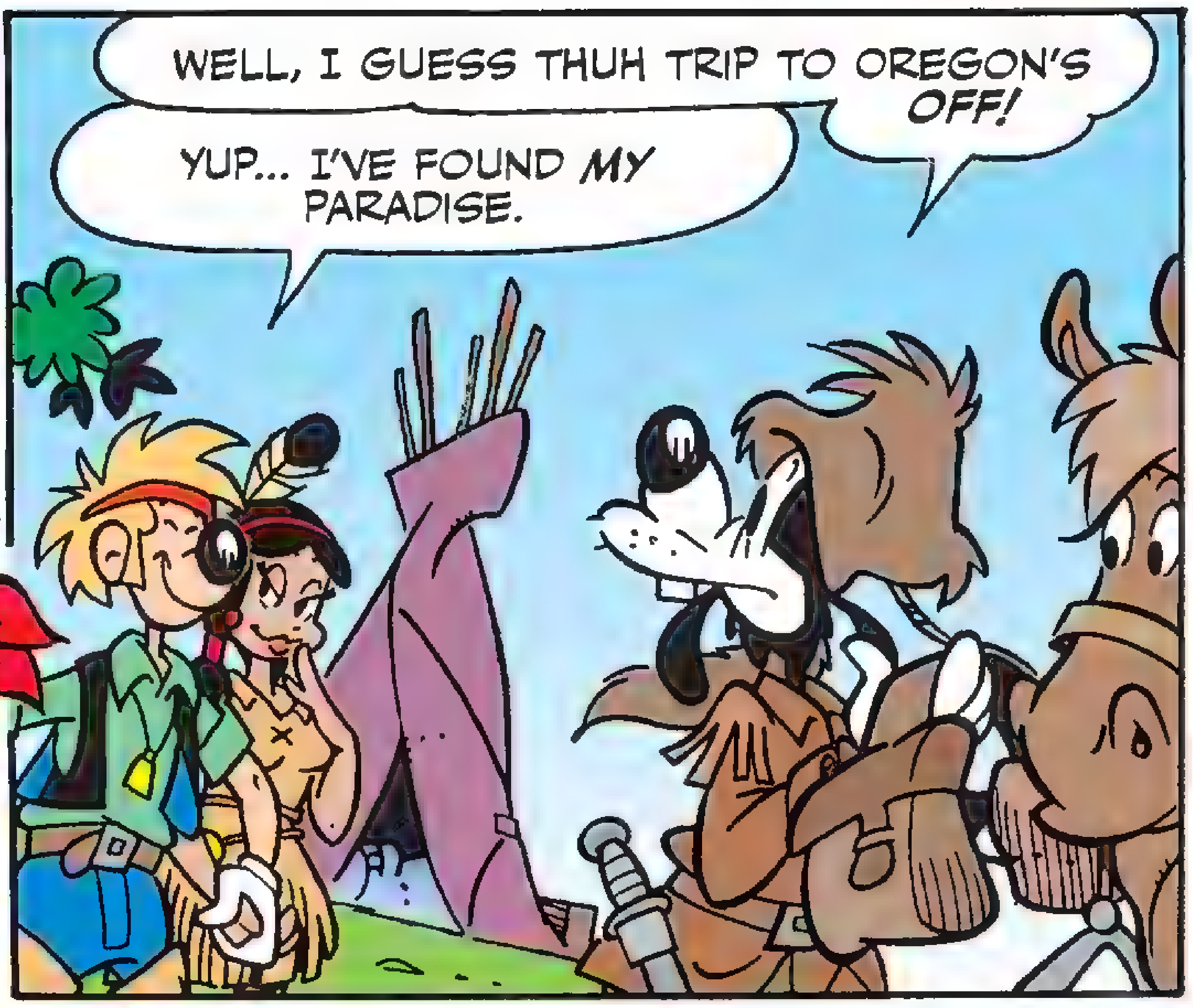

WHAT?! DON'T TELL ME THAT YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH— ARGH! PROBLEMS! PROBLEMS! ALL I GET TODAY ARE ENDLESS STRINGS OF PROBLEMS!
I'M SAVED! BUT HOW ABOUT YOU?
TELL 'ER YUH WANT ME TA BE YER BEST MAN!
LOOK, FLORA... YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH TO MARRY! BUT ONLY IF FIGG CAN PROVE HIMSELF AS A BOW AND ARROW WARRIOR! THAT'S OUR LAW!
I KNOW, BUT...
MY MARRIAGE HAS ALREADY GONE BELLY-UP!
DON'T BE A DOWNER!
THET PENDANT 'ROUND YER NECK HAS THUH IMAGE OF A BOW... AN' IT'S GIVEN ME A GREAT IDEA!

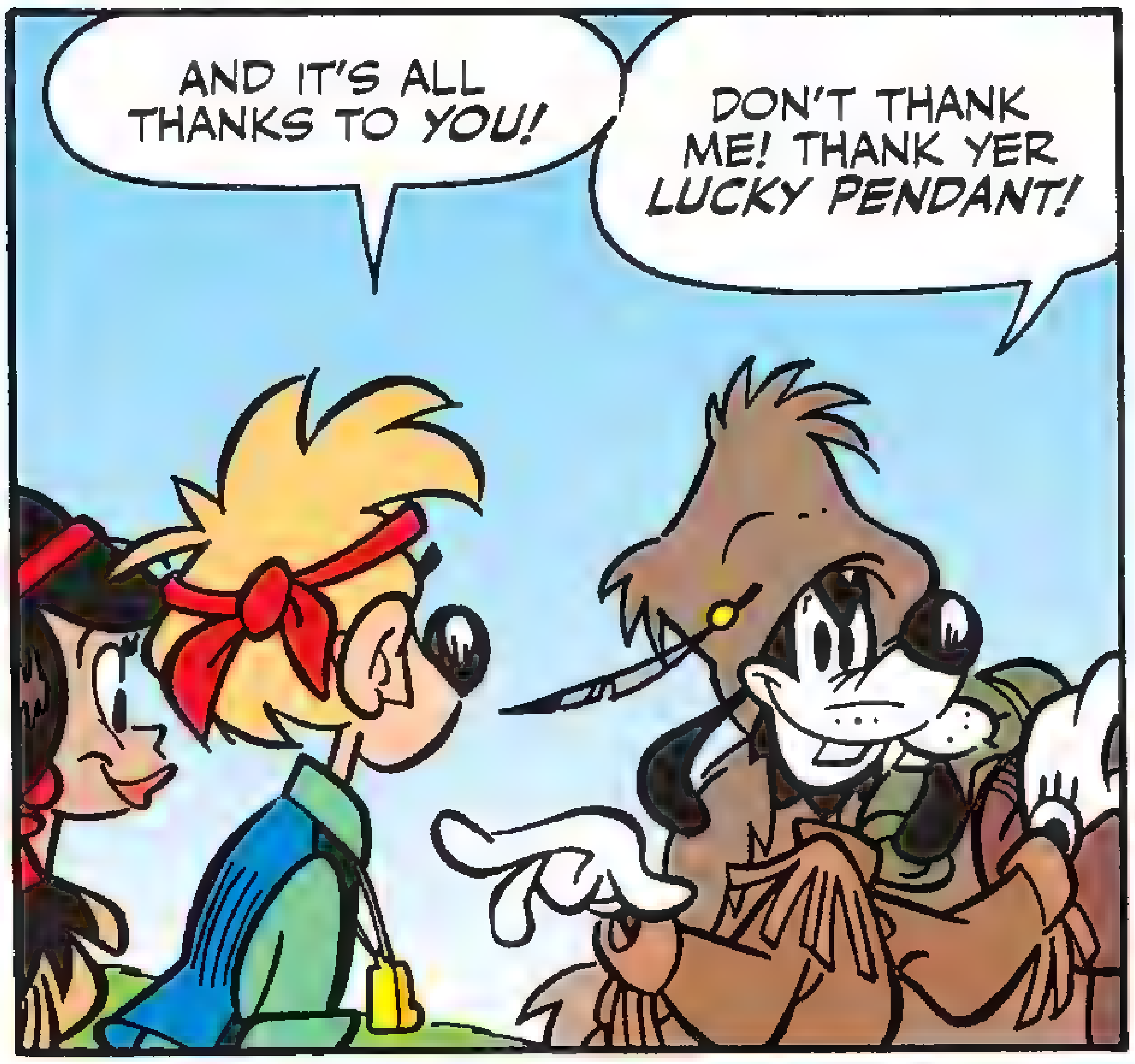

GREAT SQUEAK! TH' SAGITTARIUS PENDANT!
THAT MEANS— OUR RESEARCH WAS RIGHT?!
:AHEM: PLEASE HOLD ALL O' YER QUESTIONS TILL AFTER I HAVE FINISHED READIN' THUH NARRATIVE. A-HYUCK.
CHAPTER 3: WHOLLY MATRIMONY!
"MUH IDEA WORKED..."
FIGGY HERE IS AN EXPERT L.A.M.E.B.R.A.I.N.! *
REALLY, NOW?
* LEADING ARCHER AND MASTER OF EXCELLENT BOWMANSHIP, RESULTING IN ARROW-INUNDATED NEMESES!
SEE THET BOW 'N' ARROW PENDANT HE'S WEARIN' 'ROUND HIS NECK? THET'S HIS CRITERION!
I SEE IT...
SAGITTARIUS... A DECORATION OF MERIT, PERHAPS?

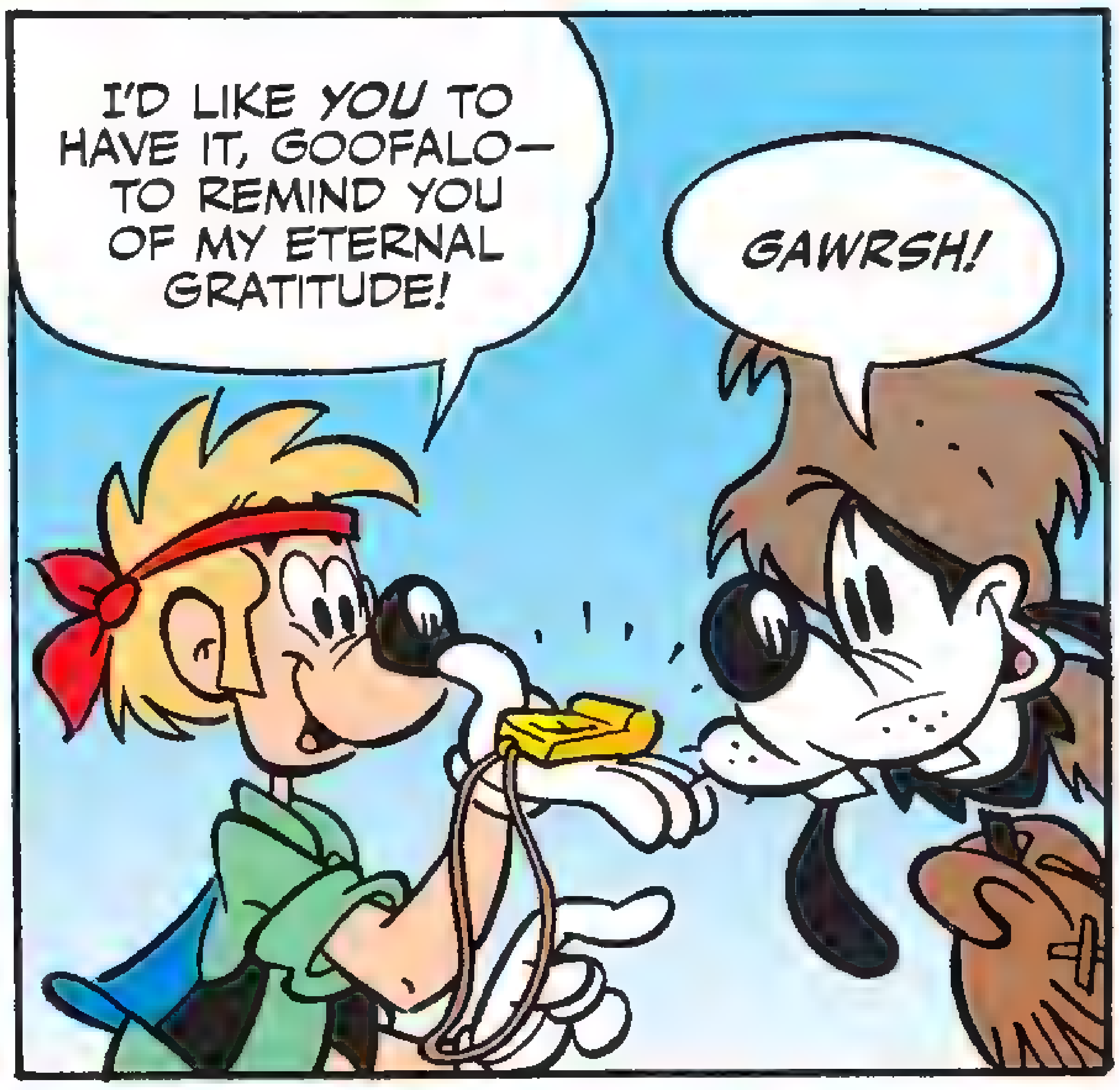

SURE 'NUFF! GIVE US A *MONTH,* AN' WE'LL GIVE YUH *PROOF* O' HIS PROWESS—PLUS A *DOWRY:* THUH MOST *BYOOTIFUL BOW* YUH EVER *SEEN!*
I'M CONVINCED OF YOUR GOOD INTENT, SO... OKAY! I WOULDN'T MIND A SON-IN-LAW IF IT MAKES MY PUMPKIN *HAPPY!*
I DON'T KNOW BEANS ABOUT ARCHERY!
YOU DON'T... BUT I DO!
*"SO WE CAMPED IN THUH WOODS, AN' I **LEARNED** HIM! MUH YEARS ON THUH FRONTIER HAD TAUGHT ME MANY THINGS..."*
NEWTON, GOOD WOOD FER A GOOD BOW HAS GOTTA BE *FLEXIBLE* AN' *DURABLE!*


"HIS FIRST ATTEMPTS WARN'T SO ENCOURAGIN'!"
NEXT TIME TRY *AIMIN'* IT.
"BUT NEWTON WUZ SMART, AN' A QUICK LEARNER, AN' SOON...
PLOK
"...THUH STUDENT SURPASSED THUH MASTER!
ZIING
"ONE MONTH LATER, NEWTON FIGG PROVED HIMSELF WORTHY OF THUH TRIBE WITH A SHOT HE CALLED THUH '*QUADRUPLE THREAT!*'"
JUMPIN' JUNEBUGS!
HYUCK!

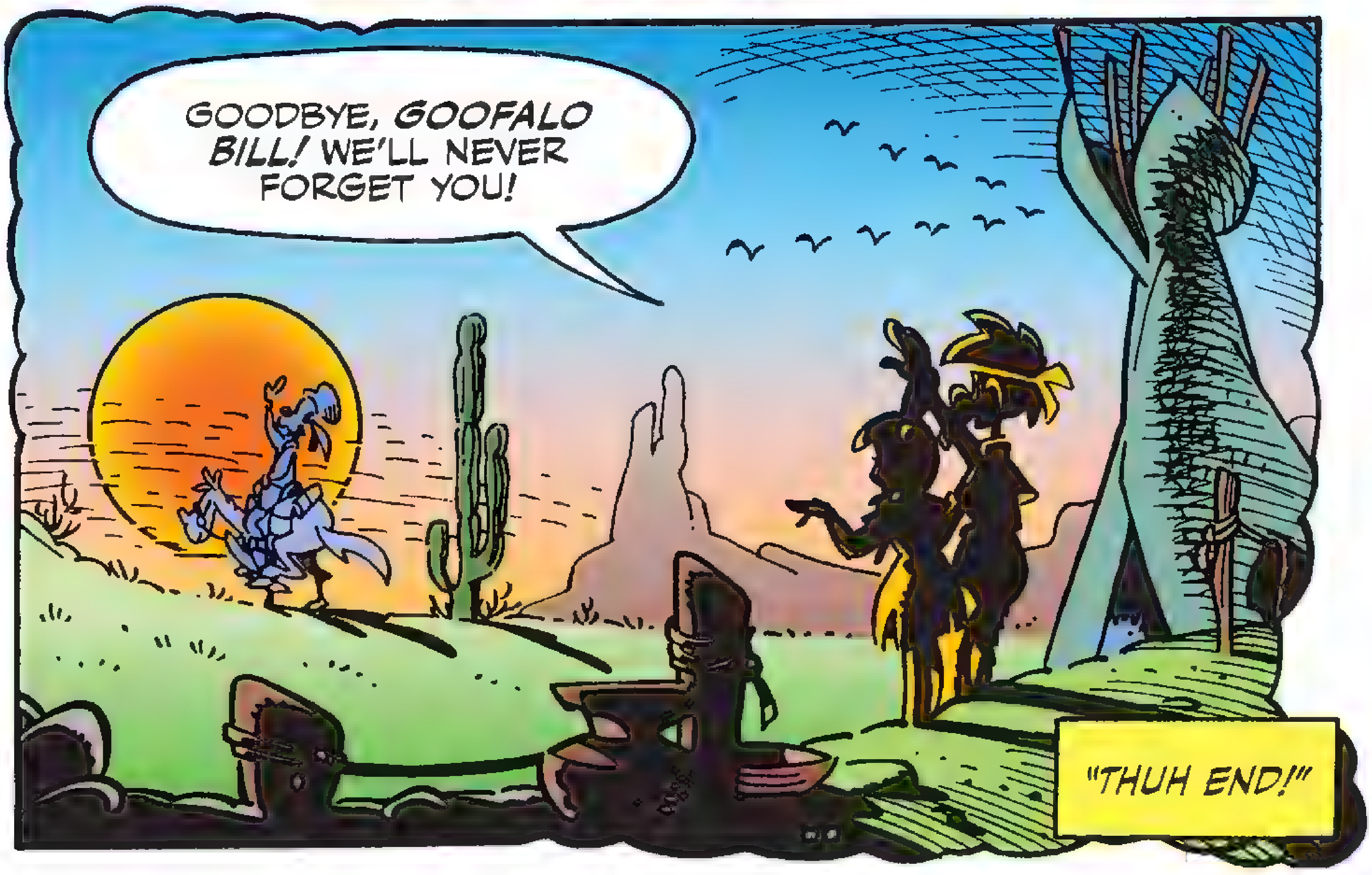

BRAVO, NEWTON FIGG! YOU *DESERVE* TO LIVE AMONG US... *AND* TO COURT MY DAUGHTER!

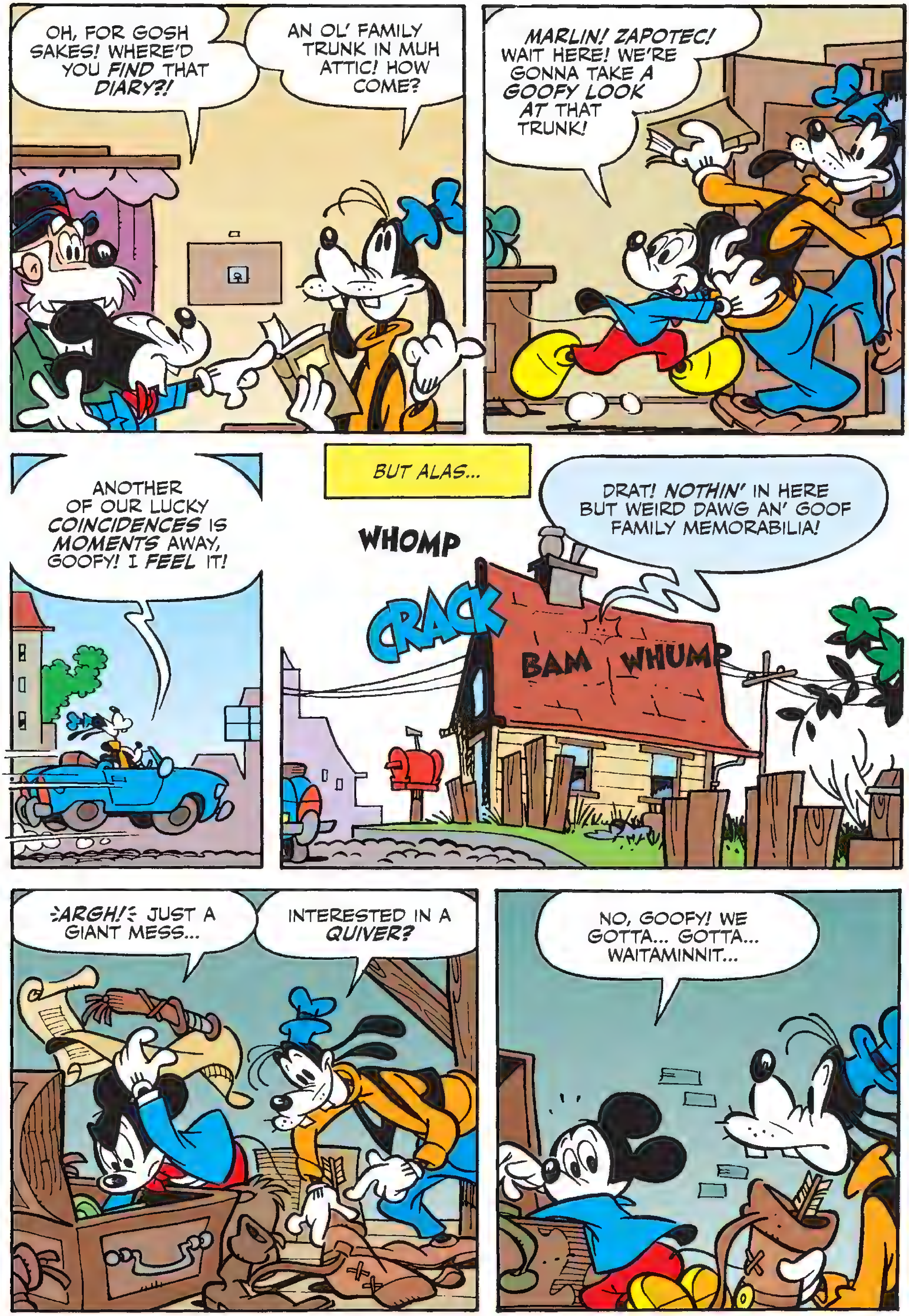

WELL, I GUESS THUH TRIP TO OREGON'S *OFF!*
YUP... I'VE FOUND *MY* PARADISE.

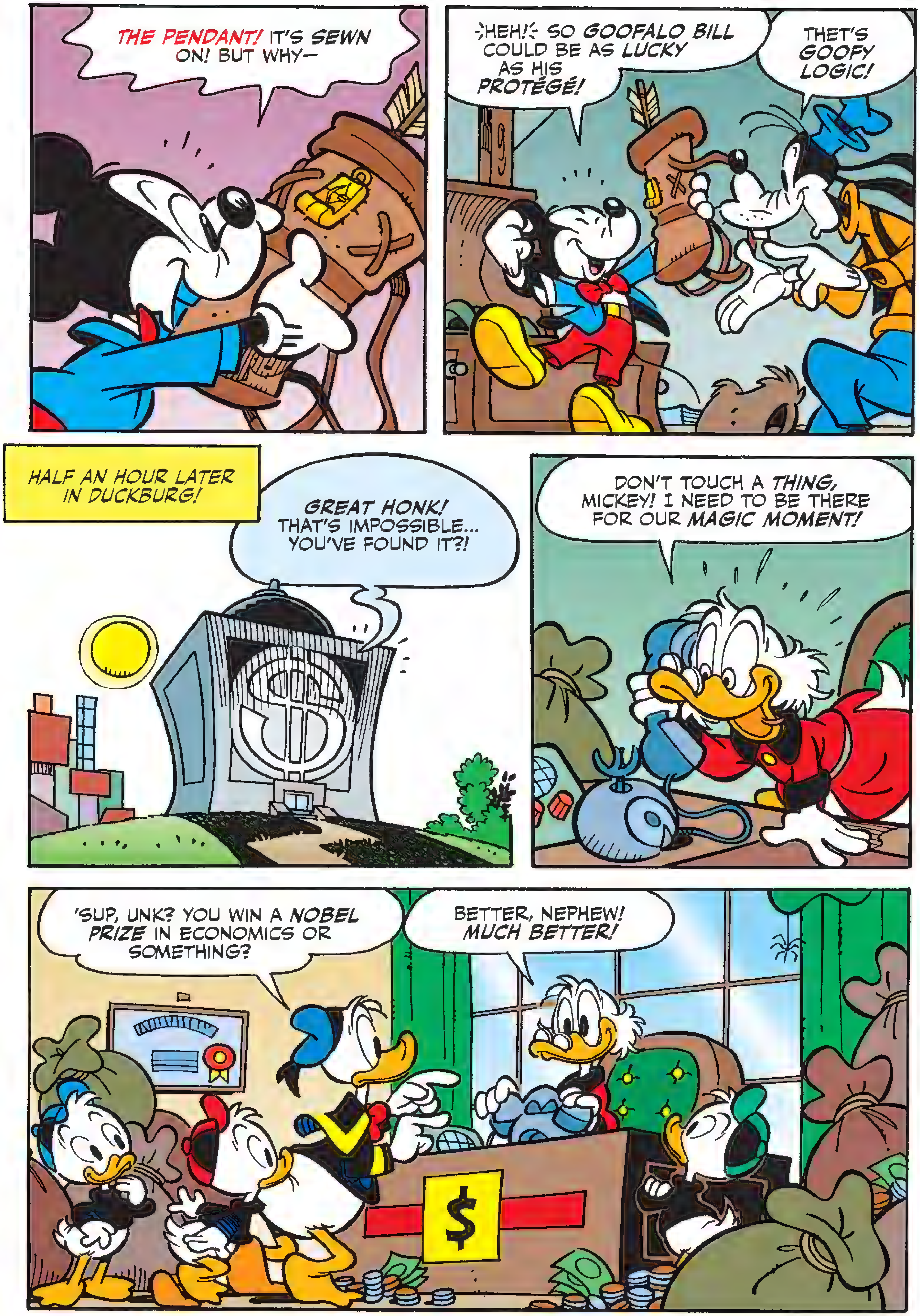

AND IT'S ALL THANKS TO *YOU!*
DON'T THANK ME! THANK YER *LUCKY PENDANT!*

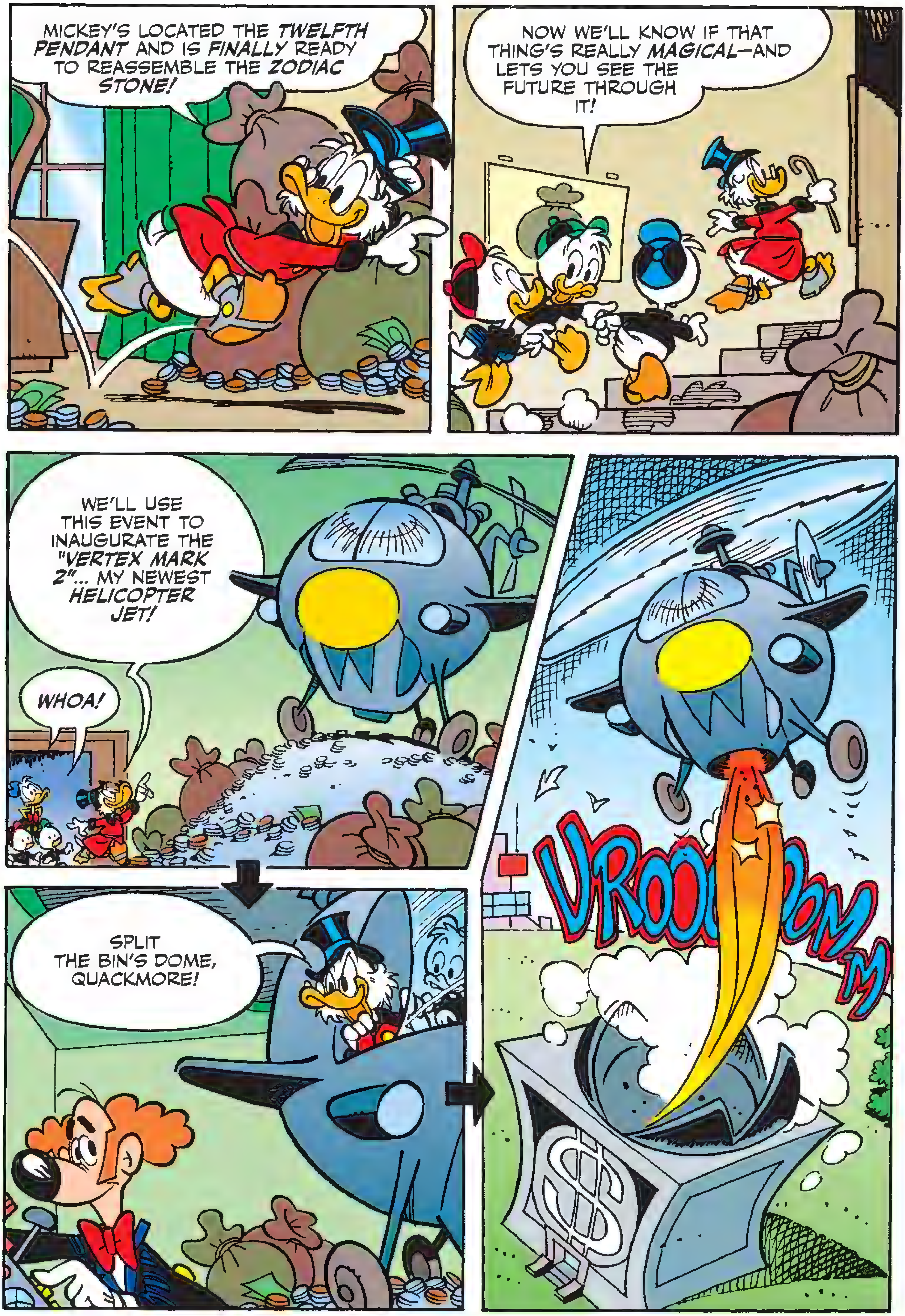

I'D LIKE *YOU* TO HAVE IT, GOOFALO— TO REMIND YOU OF MY ETERNAL GRATITUDE!
GAWRSH!

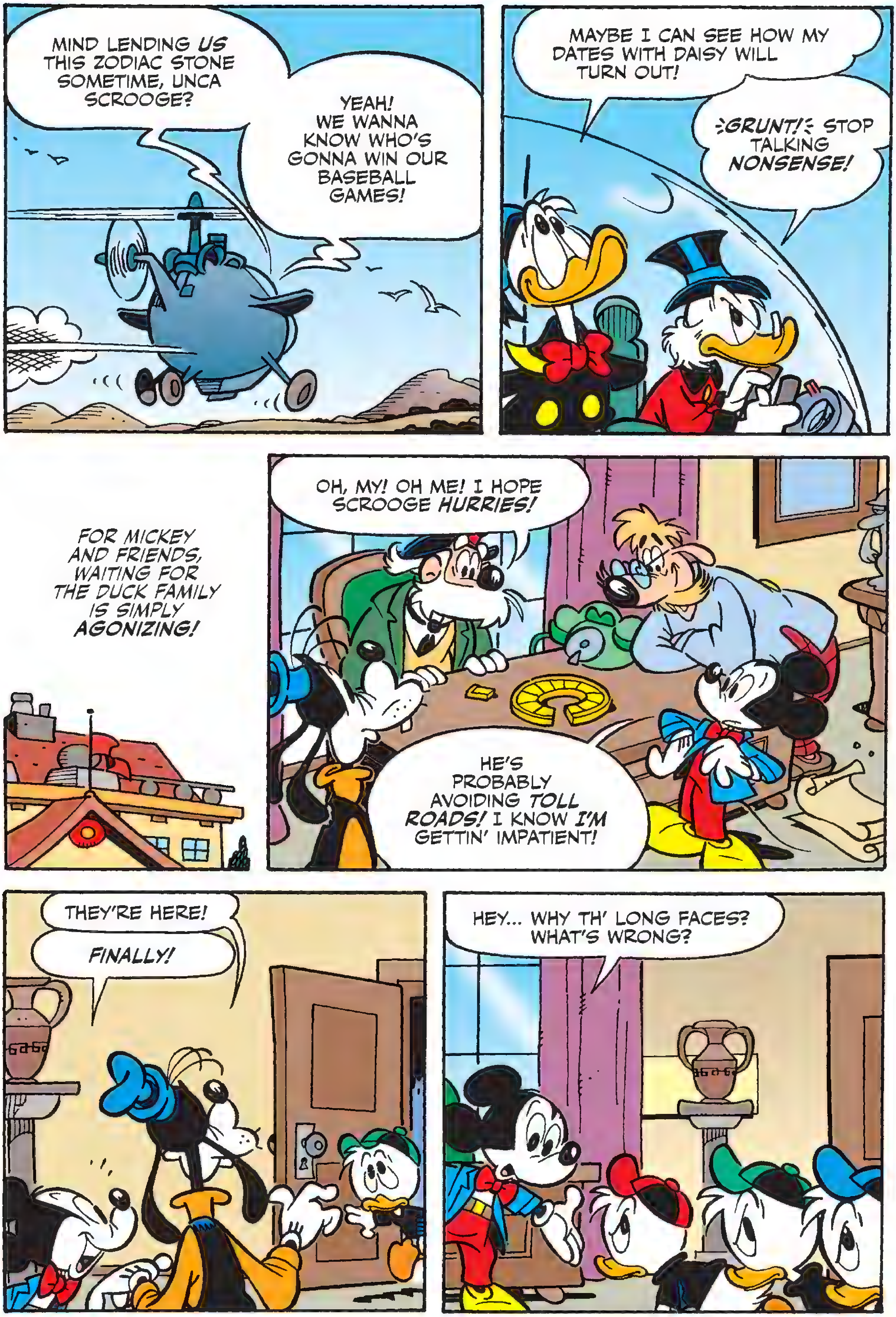
"I DIDN'T WANT HIM TA SEE ME ***TEARY-EYED...*** *SO I BOARDED HAMLET, AN' LEFT FER A STRANGE LAND CALLED* ***BURBANK..."***

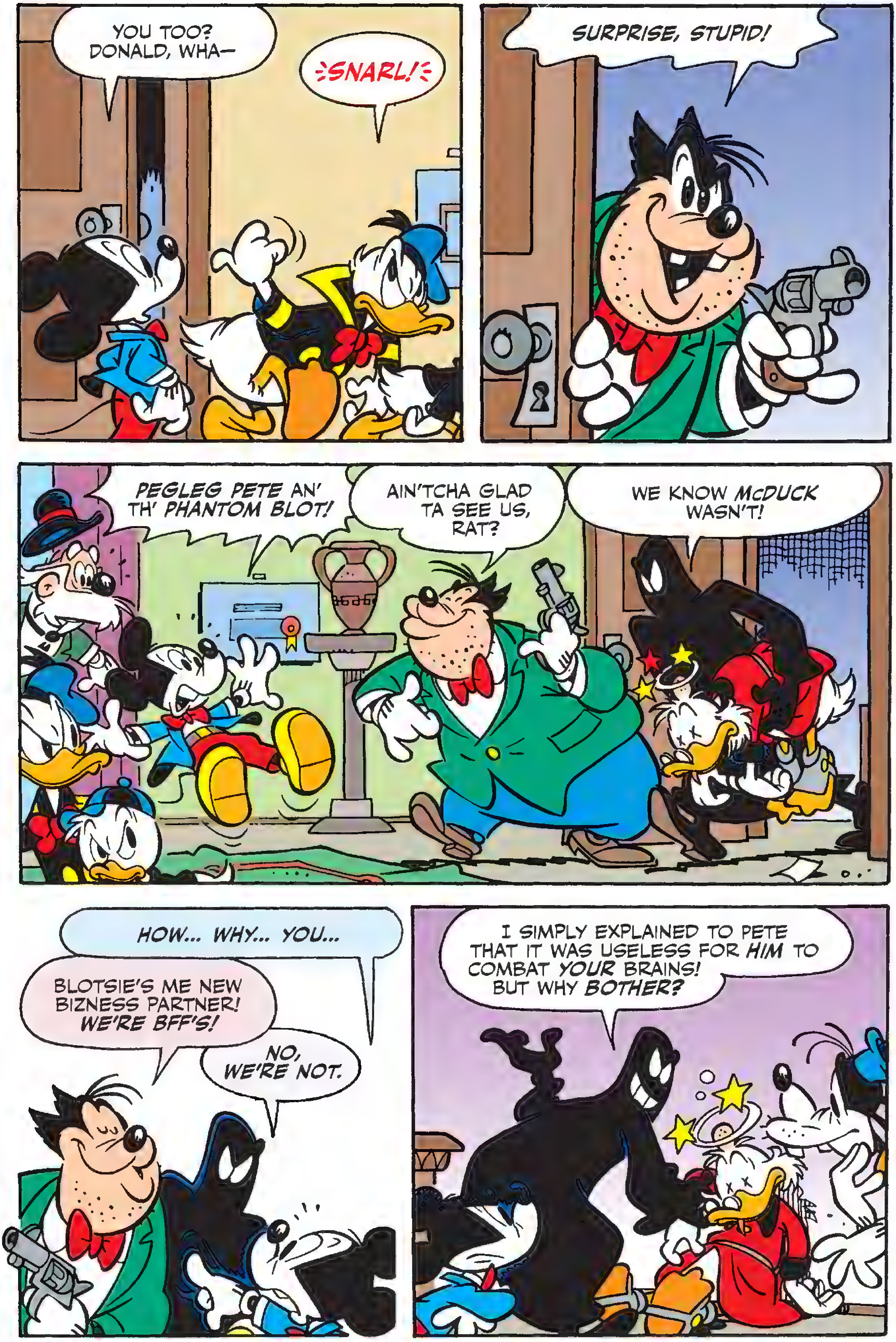

GOODBYE, *GOOFALO BILL!* WE'LL NEVER FORGET YOU!
"THUH END!"

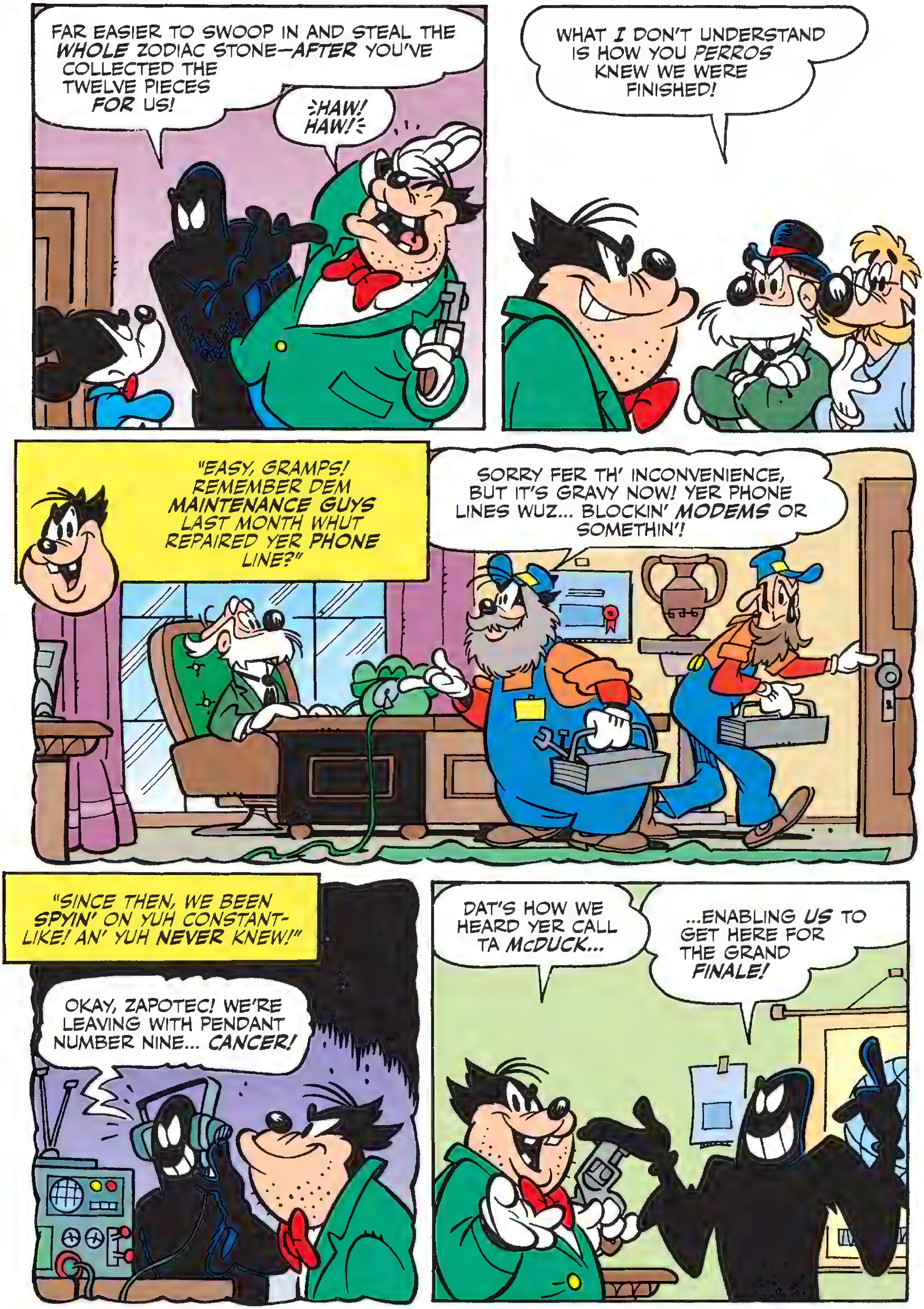

OH, FOR GOSH SAKES! WHERE'D YOU *FIND* THAT *DIARY?!*
AN OL' FAMILY TRUNK IN MUH ATTIC! HOW COME?
MARLIN! ZAPOTEC! WAIT HERE! WE'RE GONNA TAKE A *GOOFY LOOK AT* THAT TRUNK!
ANOTHER OF OUR LUCKY *COINCIDENCES* IS *MOMENTS* AWAY, GOOFY! I *FEEL* IT!
BUT ALAS...
WHOMP
CRACK
BAM
WHUMP
DRAT! *NOTHIN'* IN HERE BUT WEIRD DAWG AN' GOOF FAMILY MEMORABILIA!
ARGH! JUST A GIANT MESS...
INTERESTED IN A *QUIVER?*
NO, GOOFY! WE GOTTA... GOTTA... WAITAMINNIT...

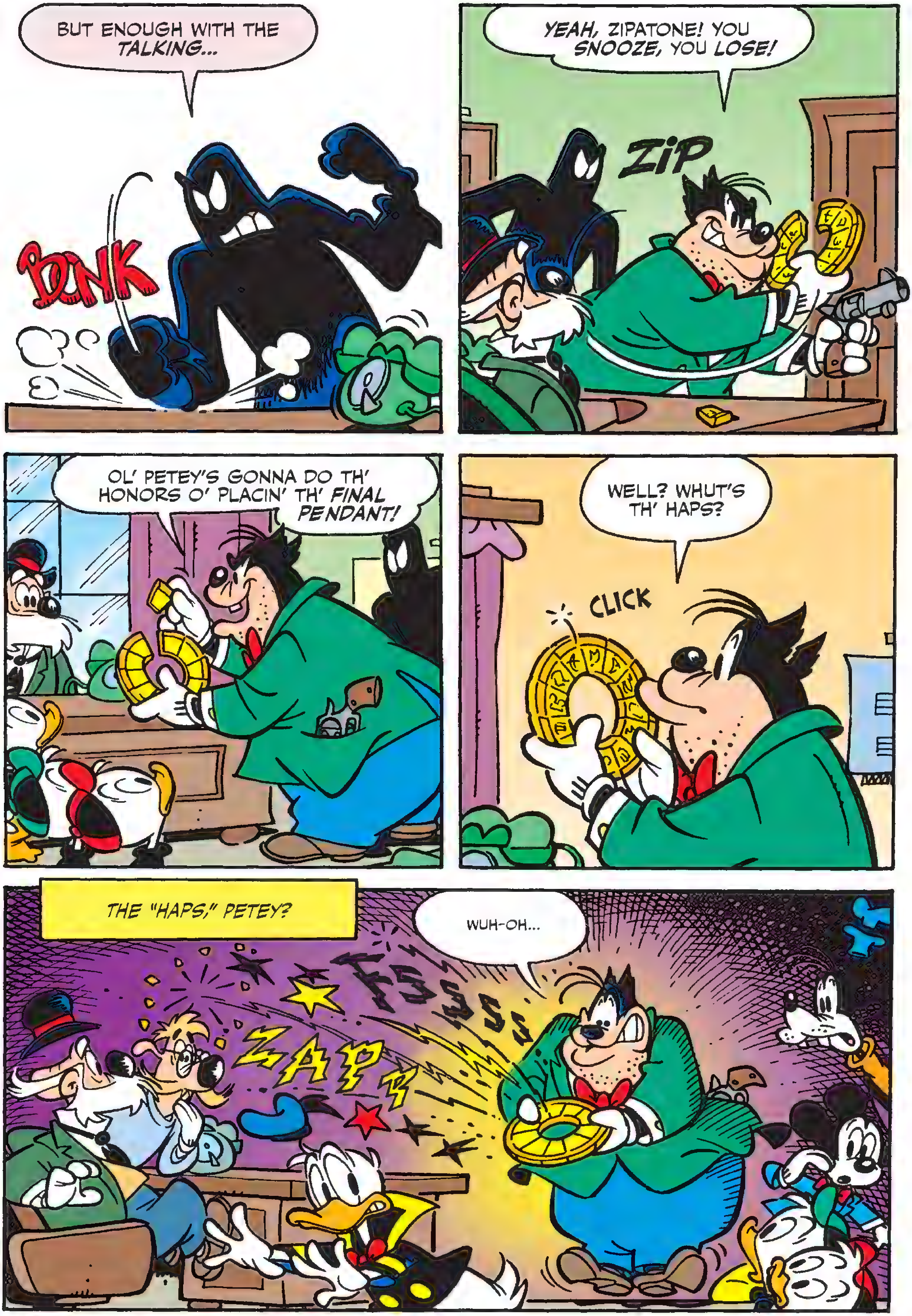

THE PENDANT! IT'S SEWN ON! BUT WHY—
HEH! SO GOOFALO BILL COULD BE AS LUCKY AS HIS PROTÉGÉ!
THET'S GOOFY LOGIC!
HALF AN HOUR LATER IN DUCKBURG!
GREAT HONK! THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE... YOU'VE FOUND IT?!
DON'T TOUCH A THING, MICKEY! I NEED TO BE THERE FOR OUR MAGIC MOMENT!
'SUP, UNK? YOU WIN A NOBEL PRIZE IN ECONOMICS OR SOMETHING?
BETTER, NEPHEW! MUCH BETTER!
$

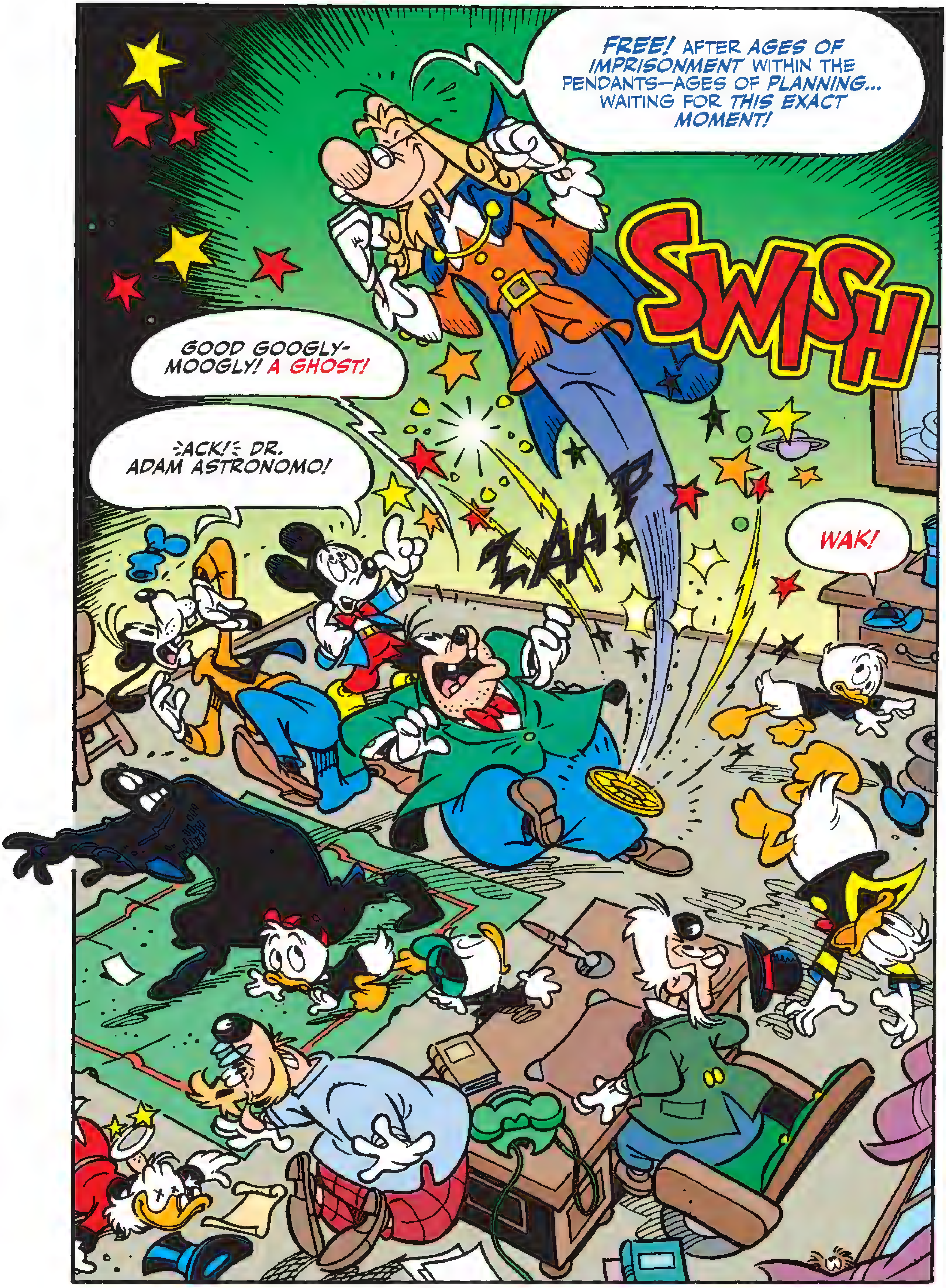

MICKEY'S LOCATED THE *TWELFTH PENDANT* AND IS *FINALLY* READY TO REASSEMBLE THE *ZODIAC STONE!*
NOW WE'LL KNOW IF THAT THING'S REALLY *MAGICAL*—AND LETS YOU SEE THE FUTURE THROUGH IT!
WE'LL USE THIS EVENT TO INAUGURATE THE *"VERTEX MARK 2"*... MY NEWEST *HELICOPTER JET!*
WHOA!
SPLIT THE BIN'S DOME, QUACKMORE!
VROOOOOMMM

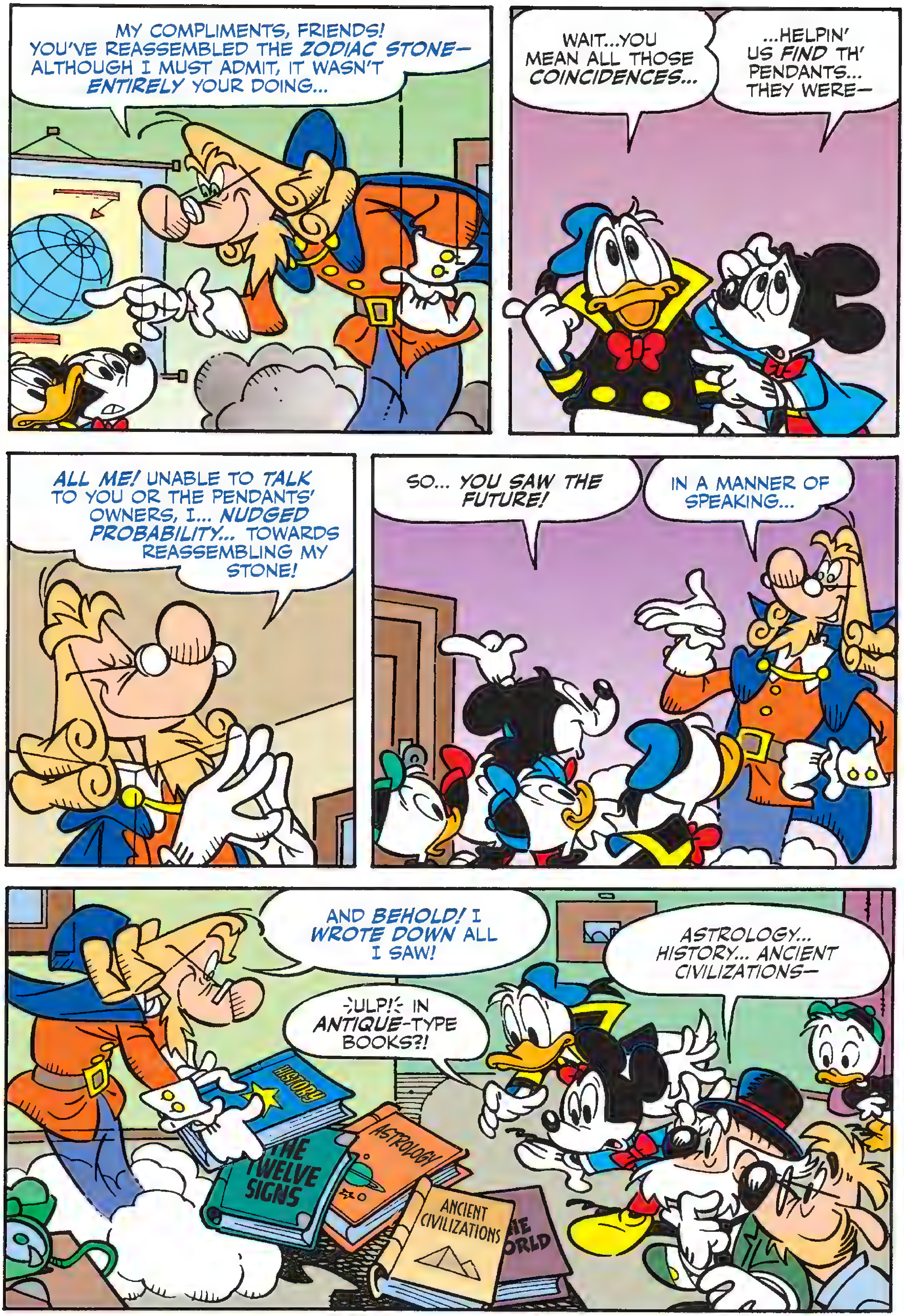

MIND LENDING *US* THIS ZODIAC STONE SOMETIME, UNCA SCROOGE?
YEAH! WE WANNA KNOW WHO'S GONNA WIN OUR BASEBALL GAMES!
MAYBE I CAN SEE HOW MY DATES WITH DAISY WILL TURN OUT!
GRUNT! STOP TALKING ***NONSENSE!***
FOR MICKEY AND FRIENDS, WAITING FOR THE DUCK FAMILY IS SIMPLY ***AGONIZING!***
OH, MY! OH ME! I HOPE SCROOGE ***HURRIES!***
HE'S PROBABLY AVOIDING *TOLL ROADS!* I KNOW *I'M* GETTIN' IMPATIENT!
THEY'RE HERE!
FINALLY!
HEY... WHY TH' LONG FACES? WHAT'S WRONG?

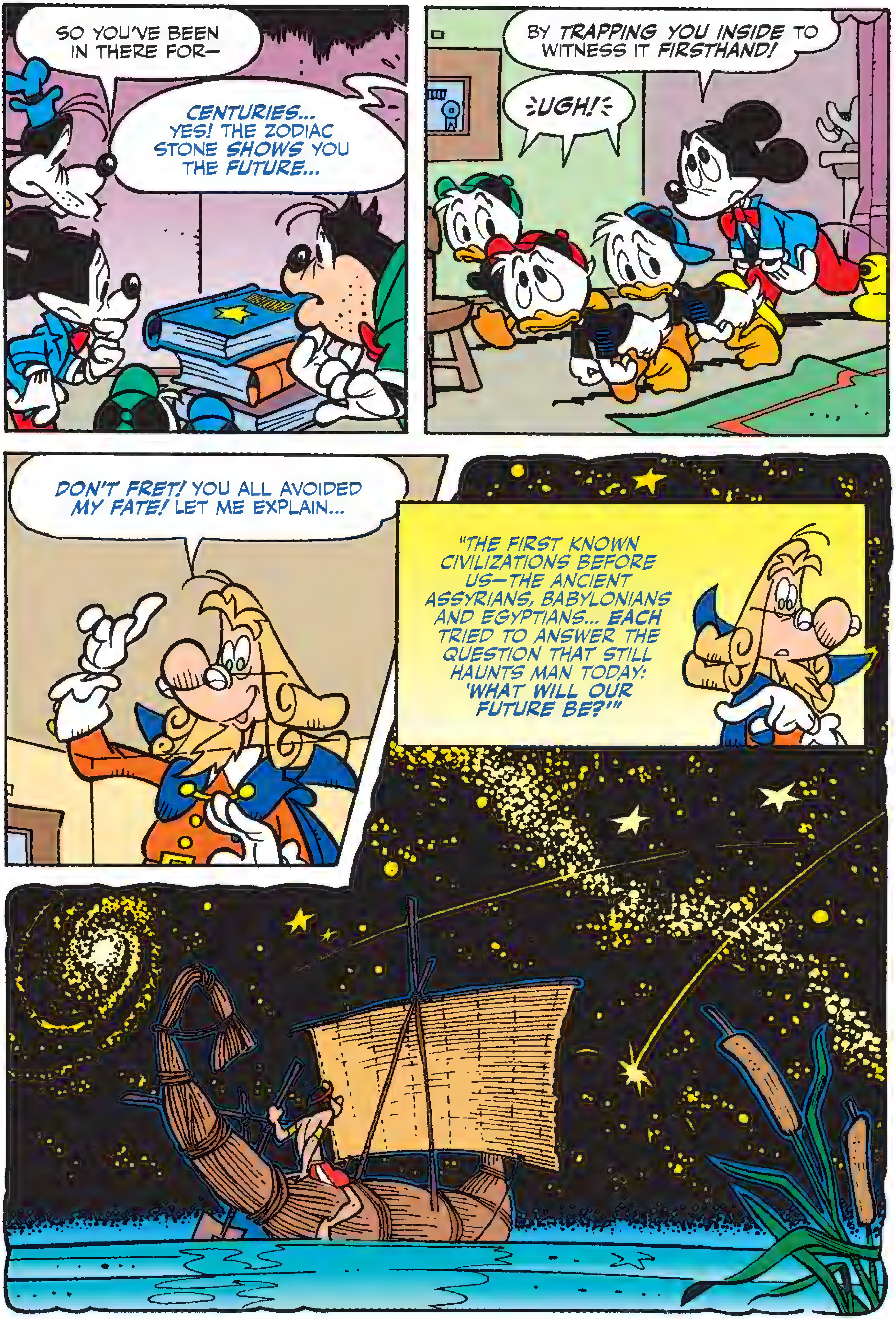

YOU TOO? DONALD, WHA—
SNARL!
SURPRISE, STUPID!
PEGLEG PETE AN' TH' PHANTOM BLOT!
AIN'TCHA GLAD TA SEE US, RAT?
WE KNOW McDUCK WASN'T!
HOW... WHY... YOU...
BLOTSIE'S ME NEW BIZNESS PARTNER! WE'RE BFF'S!
NO, WE'RE NOT.
I SIMPLY EXPLAINED TO PETE THAT IT WAS USELESS FOR HIM TO COMBAT YOUR BRAINS! BUT WHY BOTHER?

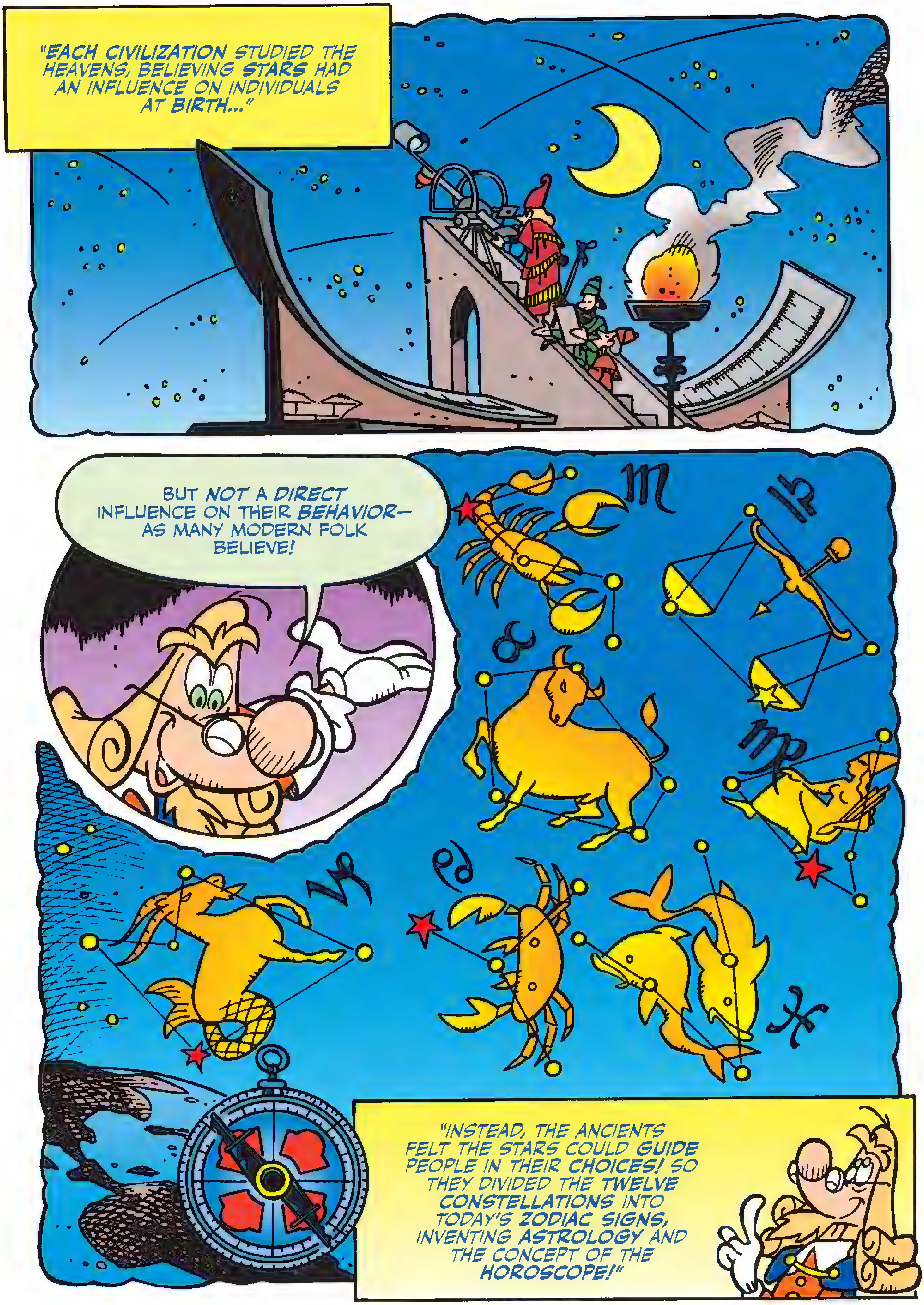

FAR EASIER TO SWOOP IN AND STEAL THE *WHOLE* ZODIAC STONE—*AFTER* YOU'VE COLLECTED THE TWELVE PIECES *FOR* US!
HAW! HAW!
WHAT *I* DON'T UNDERSTAND IS HOW YOU *PERROS* KNEW WE WERE FINISHED!
"EASY, GRAMPS! REMEMBER DEM **MAINTENANCE GUYS** LAST MONTH WHUT REPAIRED YER **PHONE** LINE?"
SORRY FER TH' INCONVENIENCE, BUT IT'S GRAVY NOW! YER PHONE LINES WUZ... BLOCKIN' *MODEMS* OR SOMETHIN'!
"SINCE THEN, WE BEEN **SPYIN'** ON YUH CONSTANT-LIKE! AN' YUH **NEVER** KNEW!"
OKAY, ZAPOTEC! WE'RE LEAVING WITH PENDANT NUMBER NINE... *CANCER!*
DAT'S HOW WE HEARD YER CALL TA *McDUCK...*
...ENABLING *US* TO GET HERE FOR THE GRAND *FINALE!*

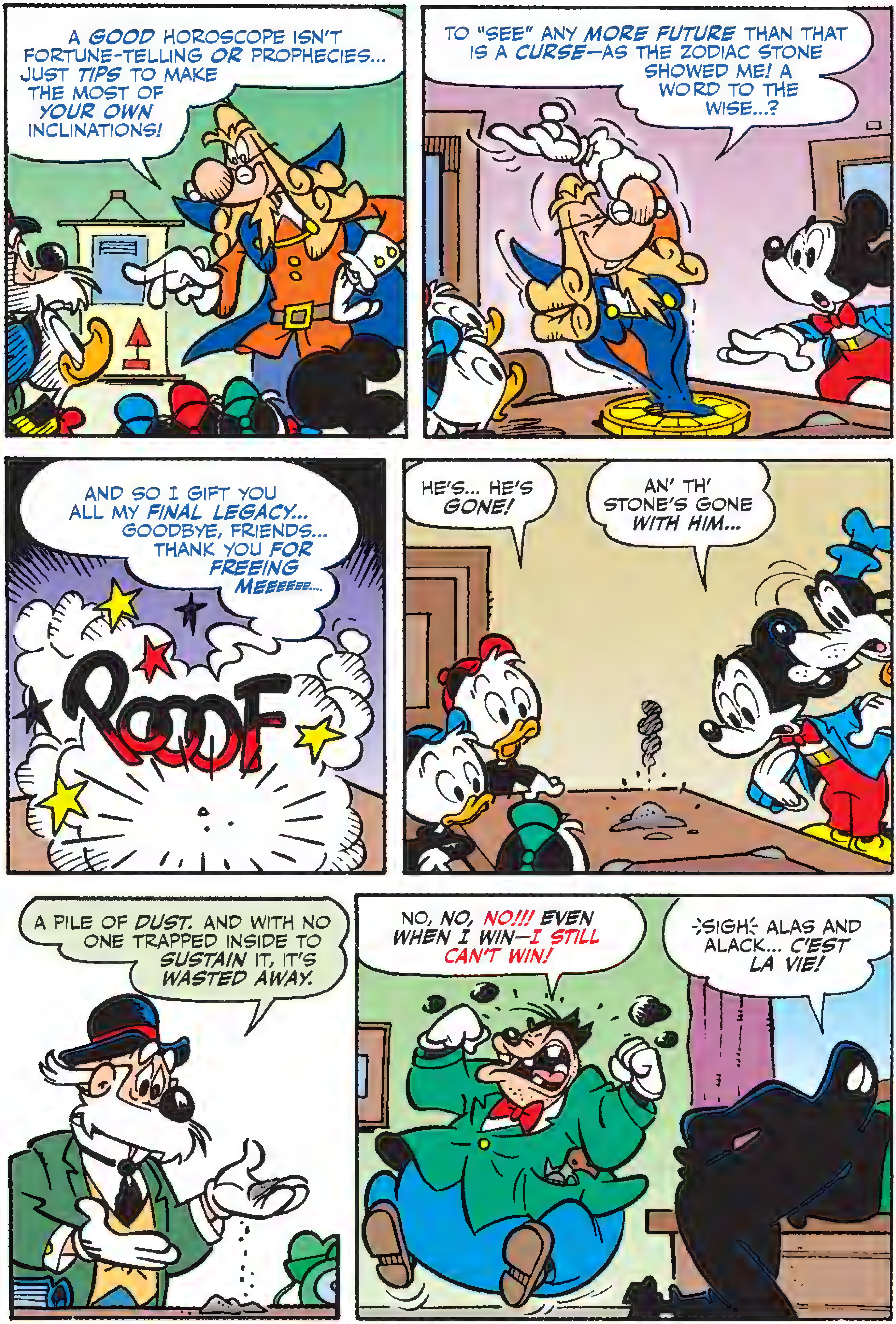

BUT ENOUGH WITH THE *TALKING*...
BONK
YEAH, ZIPATONE! YOU *SNOOZE,* YOU *LOSE!*
ZIP
OL' PETEY'S GONNA DO TH' HONORS O' PLACIN' TH' *FINAL PENDANT!*
WELL? WHUT'S TH' HAPS?
CLICK
THE "HAPS," PETEY?
WUH-OH...
FSSSS
ZAPP

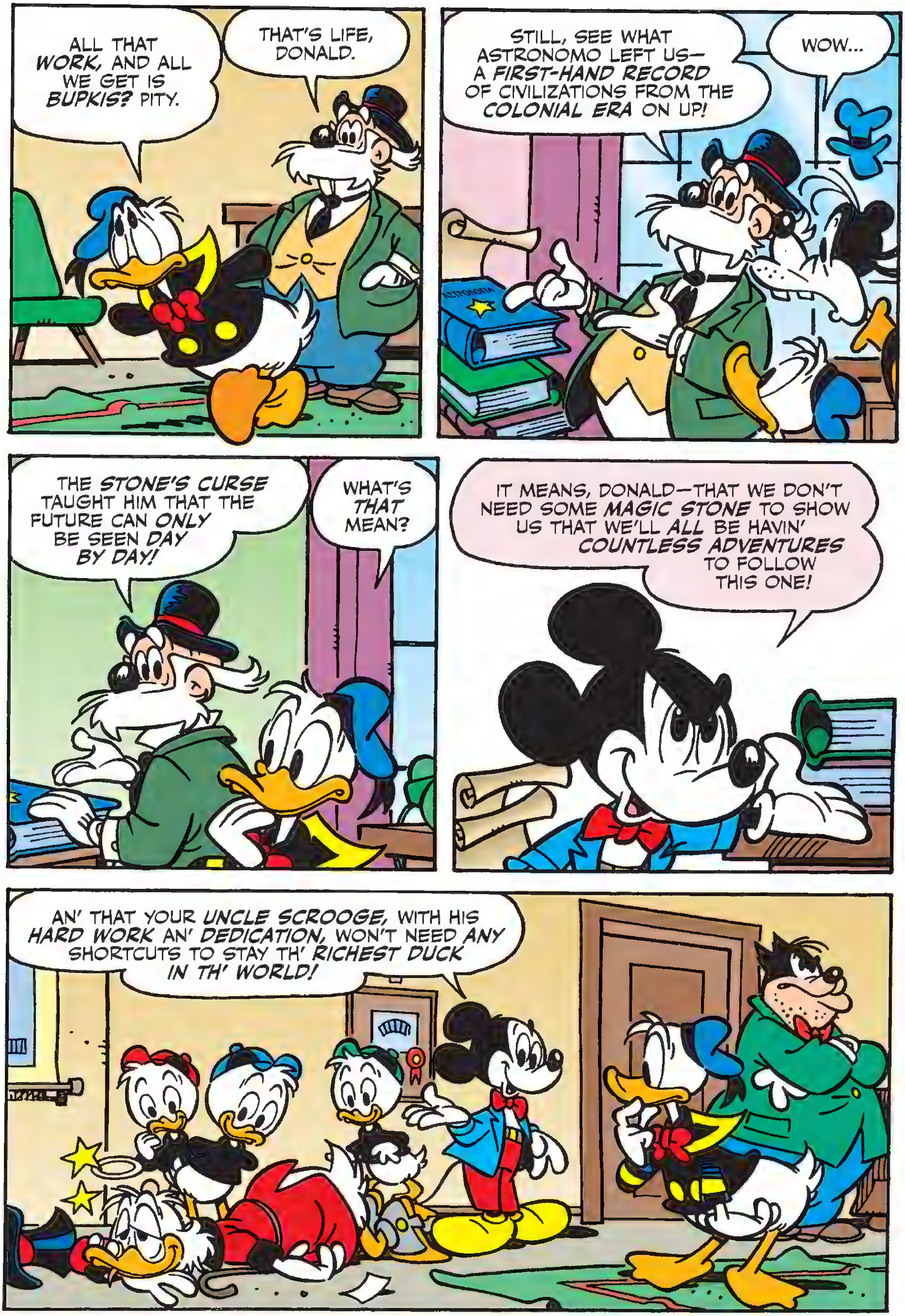

FREE! AFTER AGES OF IMPRISONMENT WITHIN THE PENDANTS—AGES OF PLANNING... WAITING FOR THIS EXACT MOMENT!
SWISH
GOOD GOOGLY-MOOGLY! A GHOST!
ACK! DR. ADAM ASTRONOMO!
ZAAP
WAK!

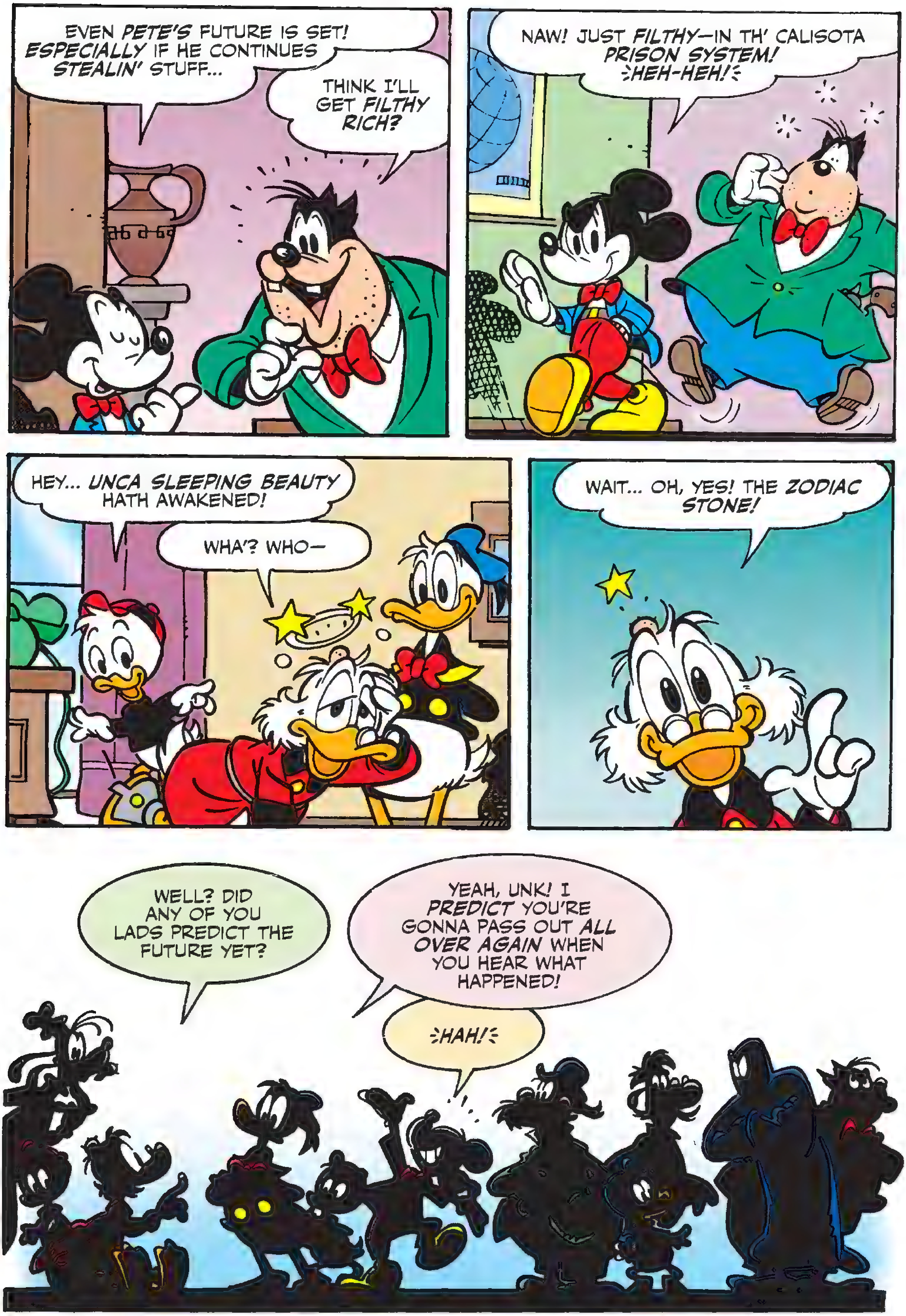

MY COMPLIMENTS, FRIENDS! YOU'VE REASSEMBLED THE *ZODIAC STONE*— ALTHOUGH I MUST ADMIT, IT WASN'T *ENTIRELY* YOUR DOING...
WAIT...YOU MEAN ALL THOSE *COINCIDENCES*...
...HELPIN' US *FIND* TH' PENDANTS... THEY WERE—
ALL ME! UNABLE TO *TALK* TO YOU OR THE PENDANTS' OWNERS, I... *NUDGED PROBABILITY*... TOWARDS REASSEMBLING MY STONE!
SO... *YOU SAW THE FUTURE!*
IN A MANNER OF SPEAKING...
AND *BEHOLD!* I *WROTE DOWN* ALL I SAW!
ASTROLOGY... HISTORY... ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS—
-ULP!- IN *ANTIQUE*-TYPE BOOKS?!
HISTORY
THE TWELVE SIGNS
ASTROLOGY
ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS
HE ORLD

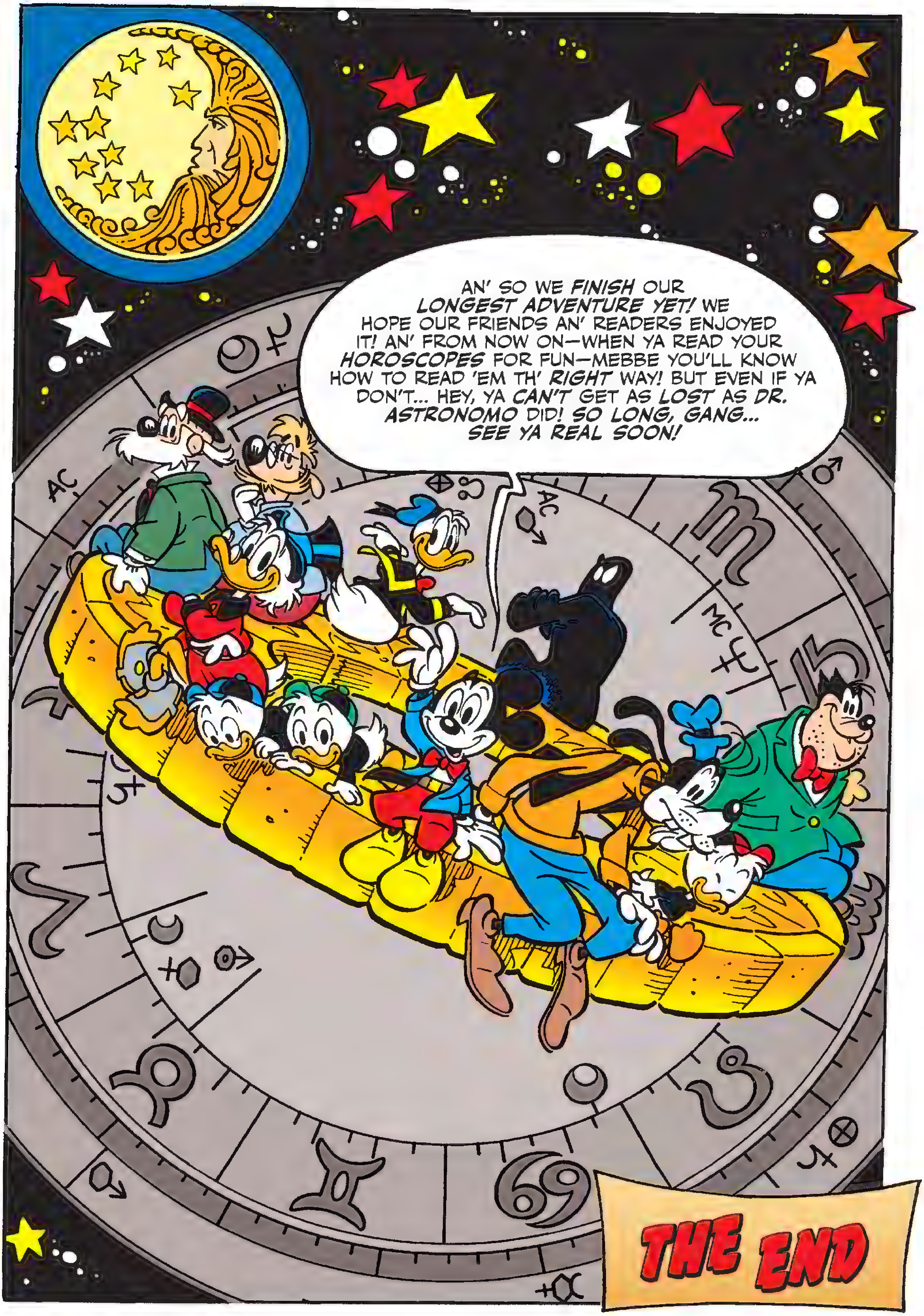

SO YOU'VE BEEN IN THERE FOR—
CENTURIES... YES! THE ZODIAC STONE SHOWS YOU THE FUTURE...
BY TRAPPING YOU INSIDE TO WITNESS IT FIRSTHAND!
UGH!
HISTORY
DON'T FRET! YOU ALL AVOIDED MY FATE! LET ME EXPLAIN...
"THE FIRST KNOWN CIVILIZATIONS BEFORE US—THE ANCIENT ASSYRIANS, BABYLONIANS AND EGYPTIANS... EACH TRIED TO ANSWER THE QUESTION THAT STILL HAUNTS MAN TODAY: 'WHAT WILL OUR FUTURE BE?'"


"EACH CIVILIZATION STUDIED THE HEAVENS, BELIEVING STARS HAD AN INFLUENCE ON INDIVIDUALS AT BIRTH..."
BUT NOT A DIRECT INFLUENCE ON THEIR BEHAVIOR— AS MANY MODERN FOLK BELIEVE!
"INSTEAD, THE ANCIENTS FELT THE STARS COULD GUIDE PEOPLE IN THEIR CHOICES! SO THEY DIVIDED THE TWELVE CONSTELLATIONS INTO TODAY'S ZODIAC SIGNS, INVENTING ASTROLOGY AND THE CONCEPT OF THE HOROSCOPE!"


A GOOD HOROSCOPE ISN'T FORTUNE-TELLING OR PROPHECIES... JUST TIPS TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR OWN INCLINATIONS!
TO "SEE" ANY MORE FUTURE THAN THAT IS A CURSE—AS THE ZODIAC STONE SHOWED ME! A WORD TO THE WISE...?
AND SO I GIFT YOU ALL MY FINAL LEGACY... GOODBYE, FRIENDS... THANK YOU FOR FREEING MEEEEEEE...
POOF
HE'S... HE'S GONE!
AN' TH' STONE'S GONE WITH HIM...
A PILE OF DUST. AND WITH NO ONE TRAPPED INSIDE TO SUSTAIN IT, IT'S WASTED AWAY.
NO, NO, NO!!! EVEN WHEN I WIN—I STILL CAN'T WIN!
:SIGH: ALAS AND ALACK... C'EST LA VIE!


ALL THAT *WORK*, AND ALL WE GET IS *BUPKIS?* PITY.
THAT'S LIFE, DONALD.
STILL, SEE WHAT ASTRONOMO LEFT US— A *FIRST-HAND RECORD* OF CIVILIZATIONS FROM THE *COLONIAL ERA* ON UP!
WOW...
THE *STONE'S CURSE* TAUGHT HIM THAT THE FUTURE CAN *ONLY* BE SEEN *DAY BY DAY!*
WHAT'S *THAT* MEAN?
IT MEANS, DONALD—THAT WE DON'T NEED SOME *MAGIC STONE* TO SHOW US THAT WE'LL *ALL* BE HAVIN' *COUNTLESS ADVENTURES* TO FOLLOW THIS ONE!
AN' THAT YOUR *UNCLE SCROOGE*, WITH HIS *HARD WORK* AN' *DEDICATION*, WON'T NEED *ANY* SHORTCUTS TO STAY TH' *RICHEST DUCK IN TH' WORLD!*

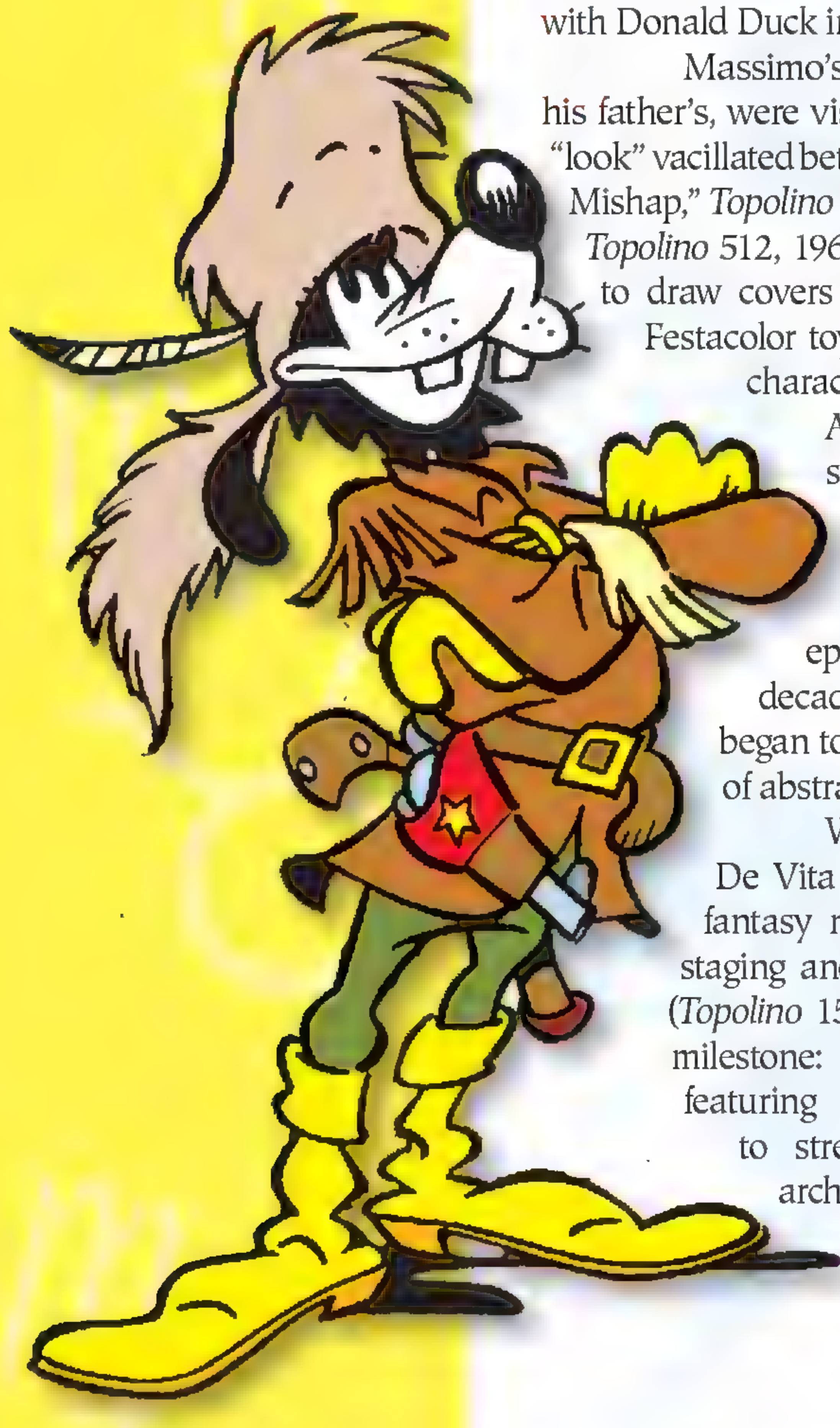

EVEN *PETE'S* FUTURE IS SET! *ESPECIALLY* IF HE CONTINUES *STEALIN'* STUFF...
THINK I'LL GET *FILTHY RICH?*
NAW! JUST *FILTHY*—IN TH' CALISOTA *PRISON SYSTEM!* *HEH-HEH!*
HEY... *UNCA SLEEPING BEAUTY* HATH AWAKENED!
WHA'? WHO—
WAIT... OH, YES! THE *ZODIAC STONE!*
WELL? DID ANY OF YOU LADS PREDICT THE FUTURE YET?
YEAH, UNK! I *PREDICT* YOU'RE GONNA PASS OUT *ALL OVER AGAIN* WHEN YOU HEAR WHAT HAPPENED!
HAH!


AN' SO WE *FINISH* OUR *LONGEST ADVENTURE YET!* WE HOPE OUR FRIENDS AN' READERS ENJOYED IT! AN' FROM NOW ON—WHEN YA READ YOUR *HOROSCOPES* FOR FUN—MEBBE YOU'LL KNOW HOW TO READ 'EM TH' *RIGHT* WAY! BUT EVEN IF YA DON'T... HEY, YA *CAN'T* GET AS *LOST* AS *DR. ASTRONOMO* DID! *SO LONG, GANG... SEE YA REAL SOON!*
AC
MC
THE END

TWO ARTISTS OF THE "STONE"

A Short Look at Long-Form Storytellers

BELOW:
Before 2015, only one segment of the "Zodiac Stone" saga ever made it to the USA. "The Old West Diary of Goofalo Bill," with all zodiac references removed, was published as a standalone segment in *Goofy Adventures* #7 (1990).



Massimo De Vita, son of fellow Italian Disney Comics artist Pier Lorenzo De Vita (1909-1990), got an early start on life. He was born in Milan on May 29, 1941, and attended art school as a youth—but by 17, he was already working as a professional animator, toiling on advertising films at the cartoon studio of Toni and Nino Pagot. By 1959, Massimo was also collaborating with another young colleague, Raffaele Cormio (1941-1981), in producing comics content for the publisher Rama and their *Super Comico* magazine.

1959 also saw Massimo De Vita's first Disney work, as he joined up with publisher Mondadori as a graphic designer and cover artist for *Topolino*. From 1960 he worked on interior pages as well; jamming with his father on two stories—Scrooge in "The Hoard of Captain Kidd" (*Topolino* 280, 1961) and Donald in "The Incredible Gold Hound" (*Topolino* 285, 1961)—before debuting as a solo player, with Donald Duck in "The Train That Wasn't There" (*Topolino* 289, 1961).

Massimo's early influences came from various places: his Ducks, like his father's, were visually inspired by the work of Carl Barks, while his Mickey "look" vacillated between the designs of Floyd Gottfredson ("Mickey's Anniversary Mishap," *Topolino* 404, 1963) and those of Paul Murry ("The Great Topaz Hunt," *Topolino* 512, 1965). A jack-of-all-trades in this period, De Vita also continued to draw covers for weekly and monthly Disney comics, filmstrips for the Festacolor toy projector (1964), short comics with a self-created detective character, and even illustrations for a children's book about cars.

After a wealth of 1960s output, the 1970s found De Vita seeking a new artistic style. Narrowing his subject matter, he spent most of these years with the Ducks and Mice alone: drawing his first Disney superhero tale, "Duck Avenger's Double Victory" (*Topolino* 822-823, 1971), along with Mickey epics inspired more consistently by Gottfredson—at first. As the decade rolled by, however, a new artistic influence emerged: De Vita began to follow the graphic revolution of Giorgio Cavazzano, redolent of abstractionist and modernist elements.

With "The Sword of Ice" (various *Topolino* issues, 1982-1984), De Vita reached his apex, drawing a three-part Mickey and Goofy fantasy miniseries filled with wild action and evocative, ambitious staging and scenery. Soon after, with "The Secret of the Mona Lisa" (*Topolino* 1555, 1985), De Vita was on hand for another Italian Disney milestone: the first of many Mickey and Goofy time-travel stories featuring Professors Marlin and Zapotec. Moving from strength to strength, De Vita next "adopted" Arizona Goof—Goofy's archaeologist cousin—with his second appearance (Mickey Mouse in "The Frozen City"; *Topolino* 1750, 1989); to this day, De Vita is generally acclaimed as Arizona's most accomplished artist.

1990, of course, brought De Vita to "The Search for the Zodiac Stone," and then to further extended-length serials and subseries, including Mickey's "Galaxy Lords" (1991) and the costume dramas "Once Upon a Time in America" (1994-1999) and "Mick De Mouse" (1999-2002).

A rare case of a comic artist who has not only developed specialties over time, but remained comfortable drawing stories of all types—from gags to far-flung adventures—De Vita has also proven a master talent in his treatment of supporting characters. Whether reviving vintage co-stars, like Mickey's Aunt Melinda (in De Vita's "Treasure of Caiman Bay": *Topolino* 2345, 2000), or designing new players like "The Magnificent Doublejoke" (*Topolino* 2535, 2004), De Vita has proven to be quite a character himself.

Franco Valussi was born in the seaport town of Trieste, Italy on May 14, 1962. After attending the Scuola di Figura at Revoltella Museum, he got right to work in 1979 as a cartoonist for the newspaper *Il Piccolo*, as an illustrator for the magazine *Il Meridiano*—and as a painter, winning awards on a national level.

In 1985, Valussi applied for work with the *Topolino* editors at publisher Mondadori. After eight months of apprenticeship, he drew his first story—Goofy in "The Case of the Cold Storage Mummy" (*Topolino* 161, 1986)—in a style heavily inspired by that of Romano Scarpa. Valussi's first Duck adventure, Uncle Scrooge in "Memory Mine" (*Topolino* 1701, 1988), appeared soon after.

Then, of course, came "The Search for the Zodiac Stone," in which Valussi drew four of the twelve chapters—and now looked to his artistic collaborator, Massimo De Vita, as his main graphic influence. "Zodiac Stone" of course also saw Valussi teamed with writer Bruno Sarda; Valussi's other collaborations with Sarda included two entries in Italy's famous "Great Parodies" series: "The Bemoused" (*Topolino* 1769-1771, 1989; spoof of Alessandro Manzoni's The Betrothed) and "Duckault's Pendulum" (*Topolino* 1842, 1991). "Pendulum" was also the first Valussi story to be inked by fellow Trieste resident Massimiliano Calò, who would continue to collaborate with him afterward.

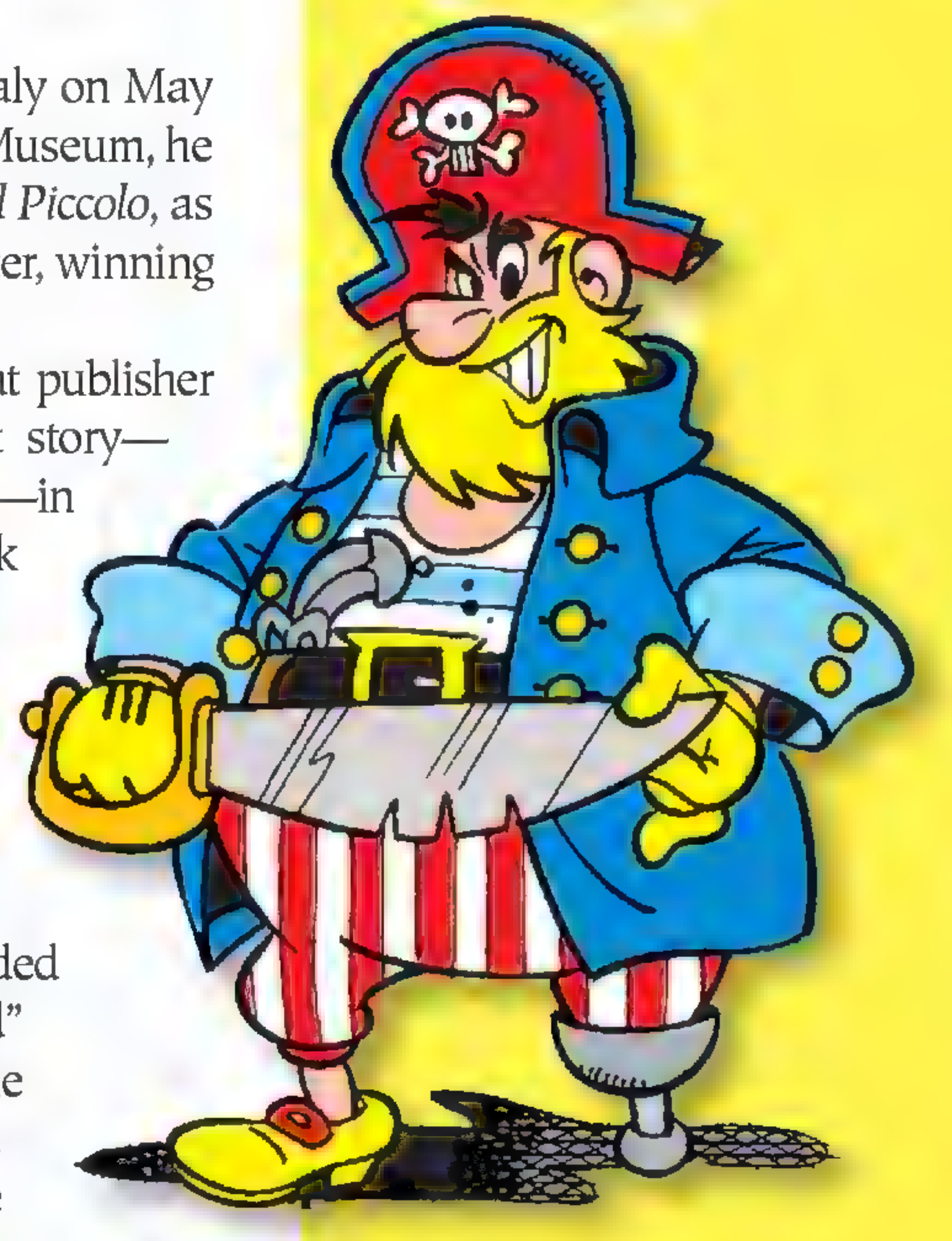
The early 1990s saw Valussi's style coming into its own; first with a special Mickey Christmas plate design (cover of *Topolino* 1881, 1991) and then with a number of high fantasy tales, including Mickey in "The Scepter of Time" (*Topolino* 1934-1937, 1992-93) and Donald in a *Lord of the Rings* send-up (*Topolino* 2081-2082, 1995). Mid-decade, Valussi also made his mark in Disney Italia's dedicated Totally Minnie and Junior Woodchucks spin-off titles.

It was in one of these magazines—*Minni & Co.* 38 (1996)—that Valussi's final Disney Comics story, Brigitta MacBridge in "Love Potion No. 8," saw print. From September of the year before, Valussi had found a different Disney niche for himself: as a character artist—first with a Hong Kong Disney office, then with Disney's London office, for which he drew marketing and merchandising artwork that has frequently been used in the United States.

We're pleased now to have brought Valussi's most famous comic story, "The Search for the Zodiac Stone," into print here as well.

—Alberto Becattini with David Gerstein

BELOW:
Dread Pirate Blondbeard (in "Zodiac Stone" Chapter 10) combines a Pegleg Pete-like body with the facial design of Hard Haid Moe, Donald's and Fethry's bodacious bumpkin foe.



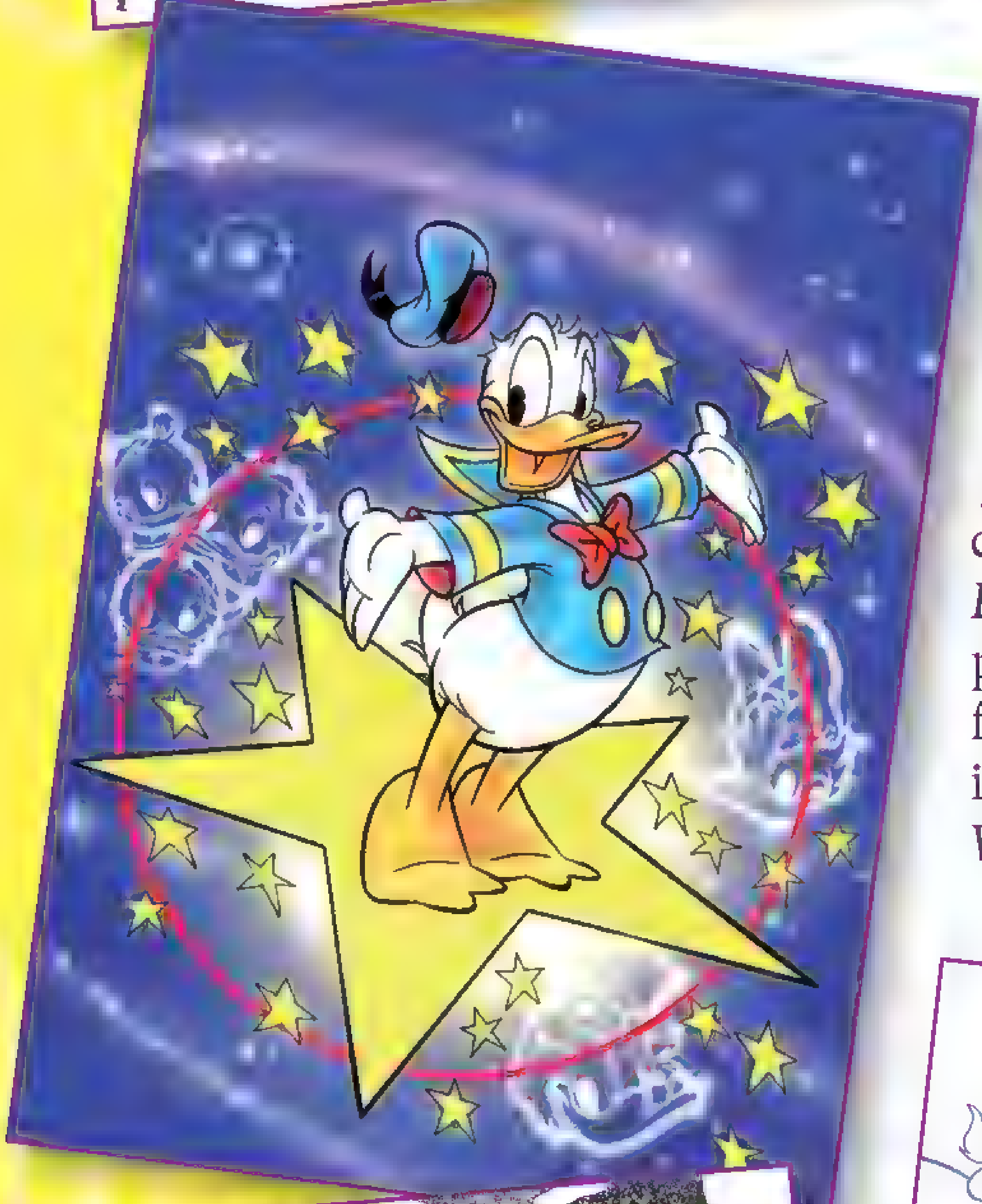
Walt Disney
N. 87
L. 3000
PAPERINO
Mese
SETTEMBRE
IL MENSILE DELLA BANDA DISNEY
PIU' PAGINE 256
PIU' GROSSO
PIU' GRINTA
PIU' SIMPATIA

THE COVER STORY

A Handful of Horoscopes

As Luca Boschi has cited elsewhere in this volume, "The Search for the Zodiac Stone" was anticipated and inspired by earlier zodiac-themed Italian Disney art: most notably a year-spanning series of covers drawn by Marco Rota for the comic book *Paperino Mese* (seen here: Daisy's entry on issue 87, 1987).

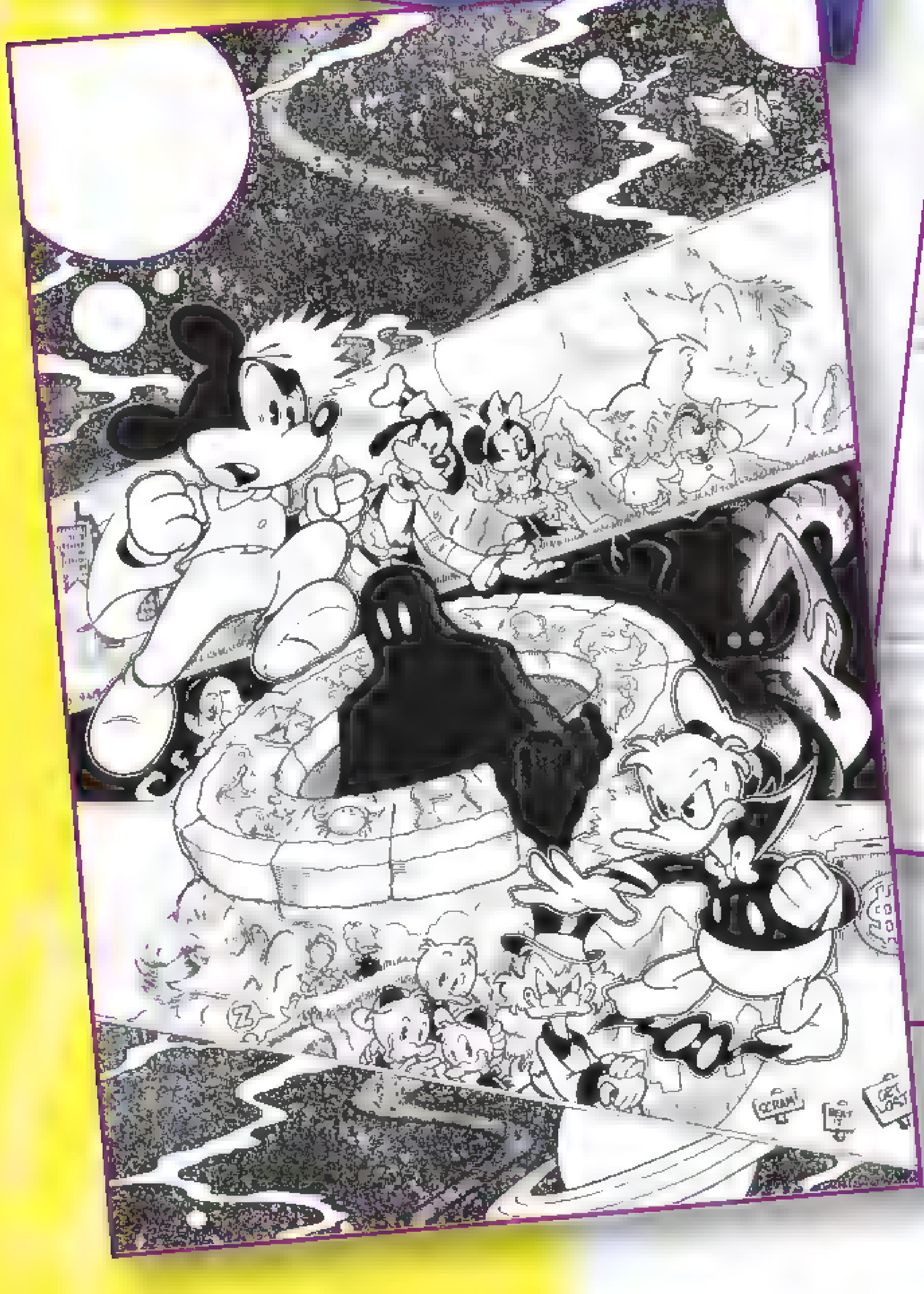
Yet surprisingly, when "Zodiac Stone" itself came out, the dedicated covers made for it in Italy were few; and notably, those few were mostly abstract images representing the story as a whole, rather than scenes keyed to individual chapters. Marco Ghiglione's and Stefano Attardi's example, created for the early collected edition *Oroscopissimo* (1995, shown here), exemplified the trend.

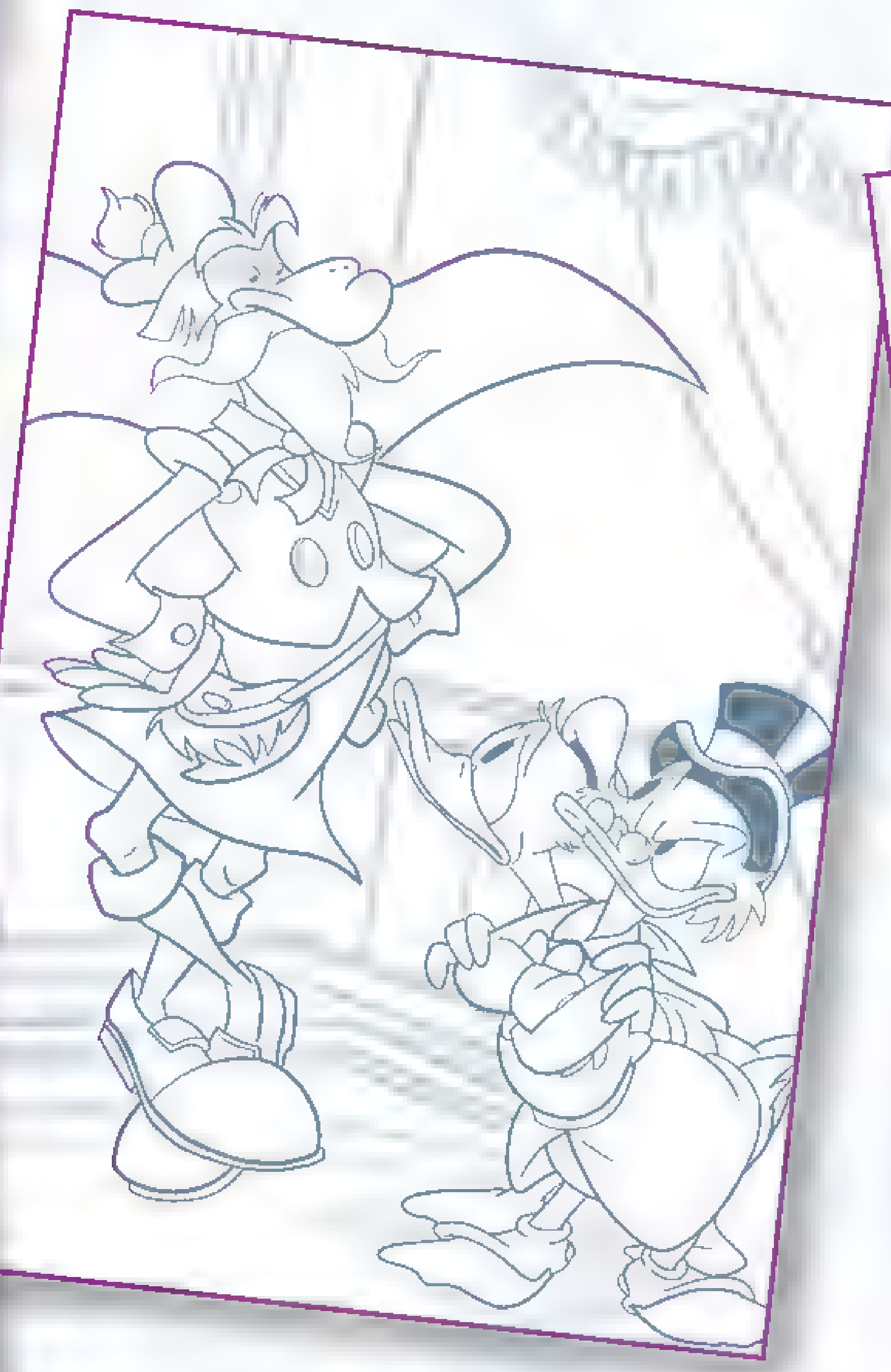


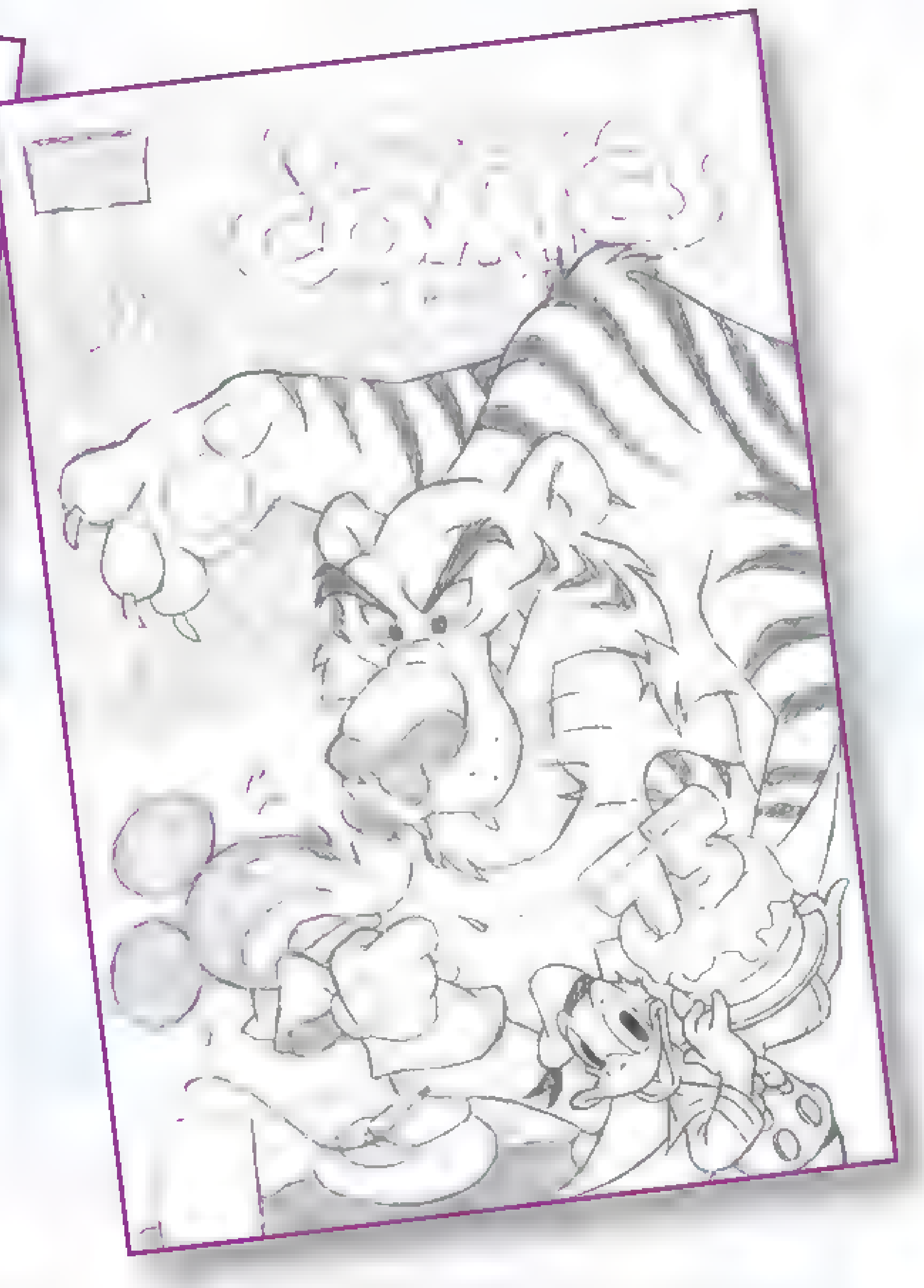
It was left for non-Italian Disney Comics producers to make chapter-specific covers for "The Search for the Zodiac Stone." Earlier in this book, and on the following pages, you can see the examples created and/or picked up by IDW.

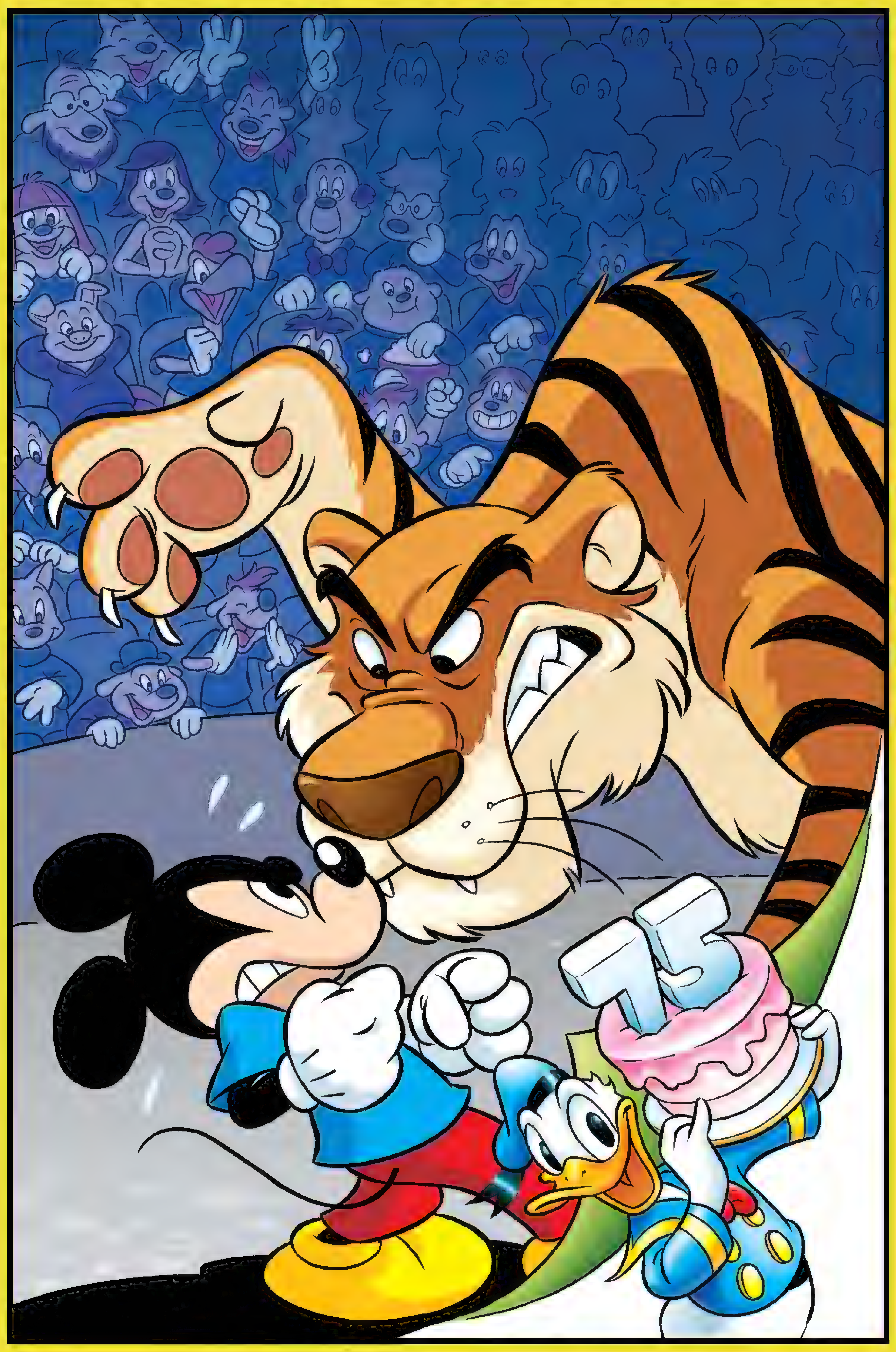
To complement them, here is a behind-the-scenes glimpse at how several looked during various stages of development: Jonathan H. Gray's inks for *Walt Disney's Comics and Stories* 721, Dave Alvarez's pencils for *WDCS* 723, and Henrieke Goorhuis' sketch for *WDCS* 724 (where the vignette of Donald with a cake interrupted the "Zodiac Stone" action to commemorate *WDCS*' 75th anniversary).

—David Gerstein





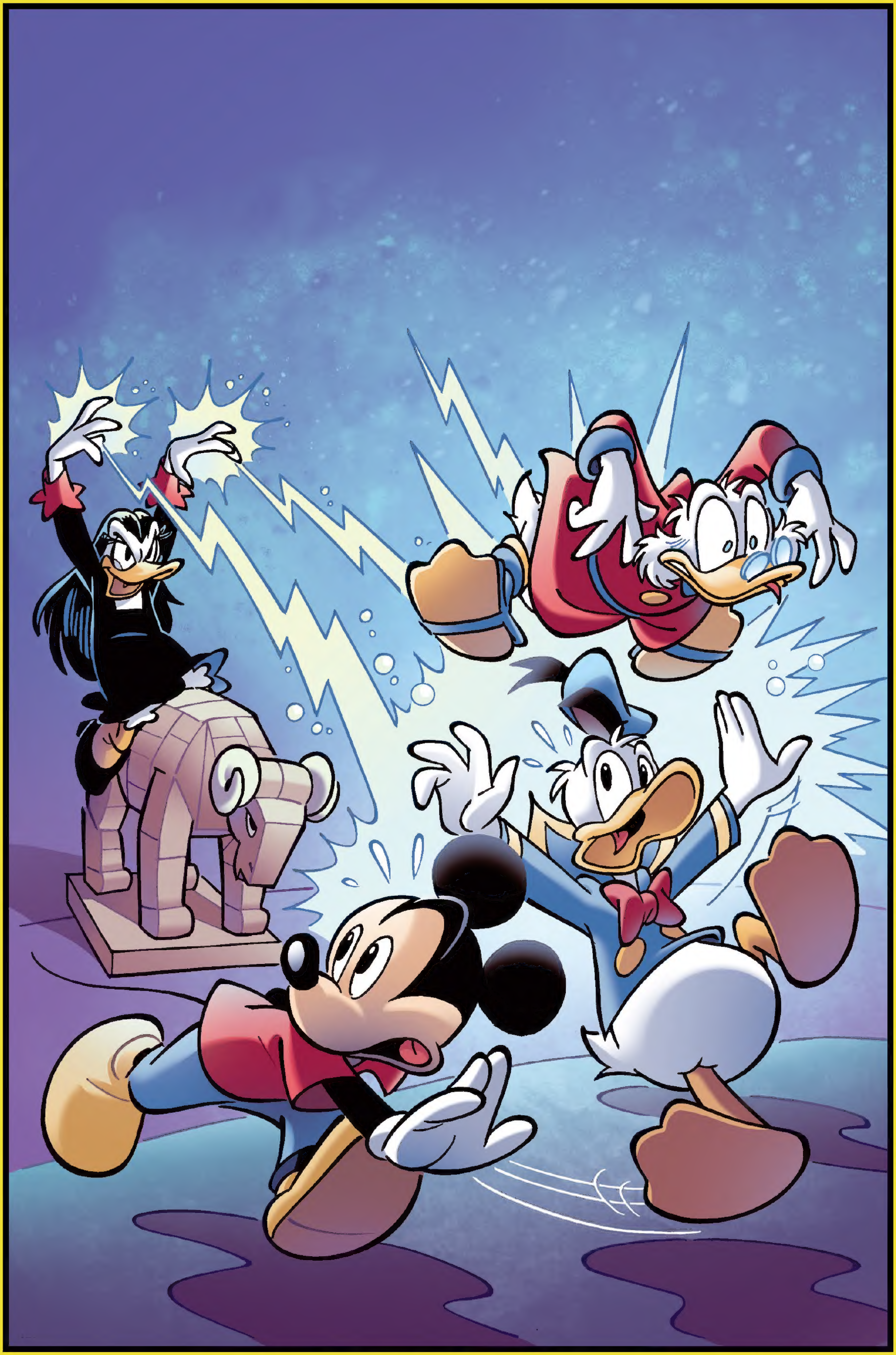




Art by Henrieke Goorhuis, Colors by Ronda Pattison

Art by Andrea Freccero, Colors by Derek Charm

Art by Andrea Freccero, Colors by Max Monteduro

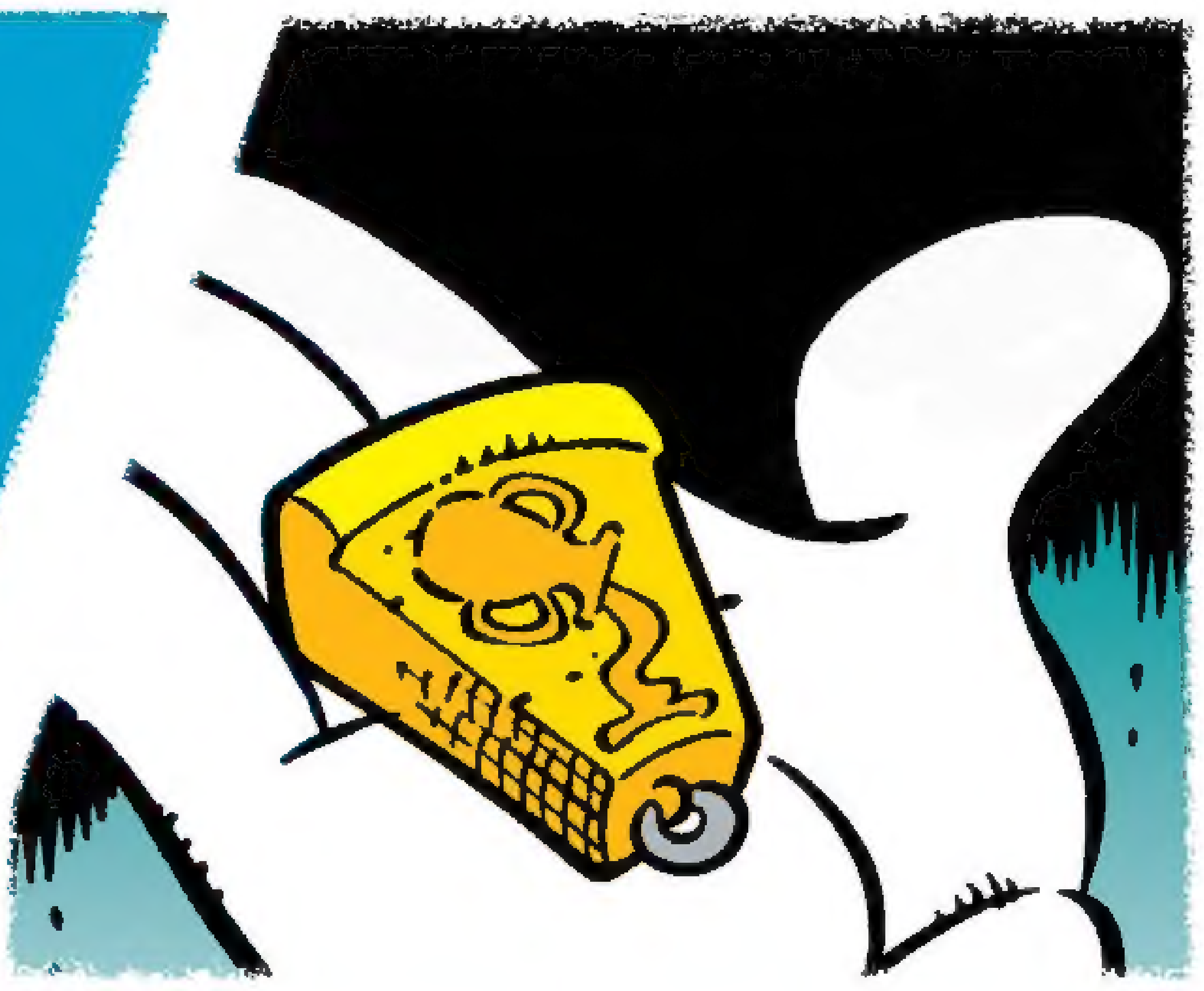


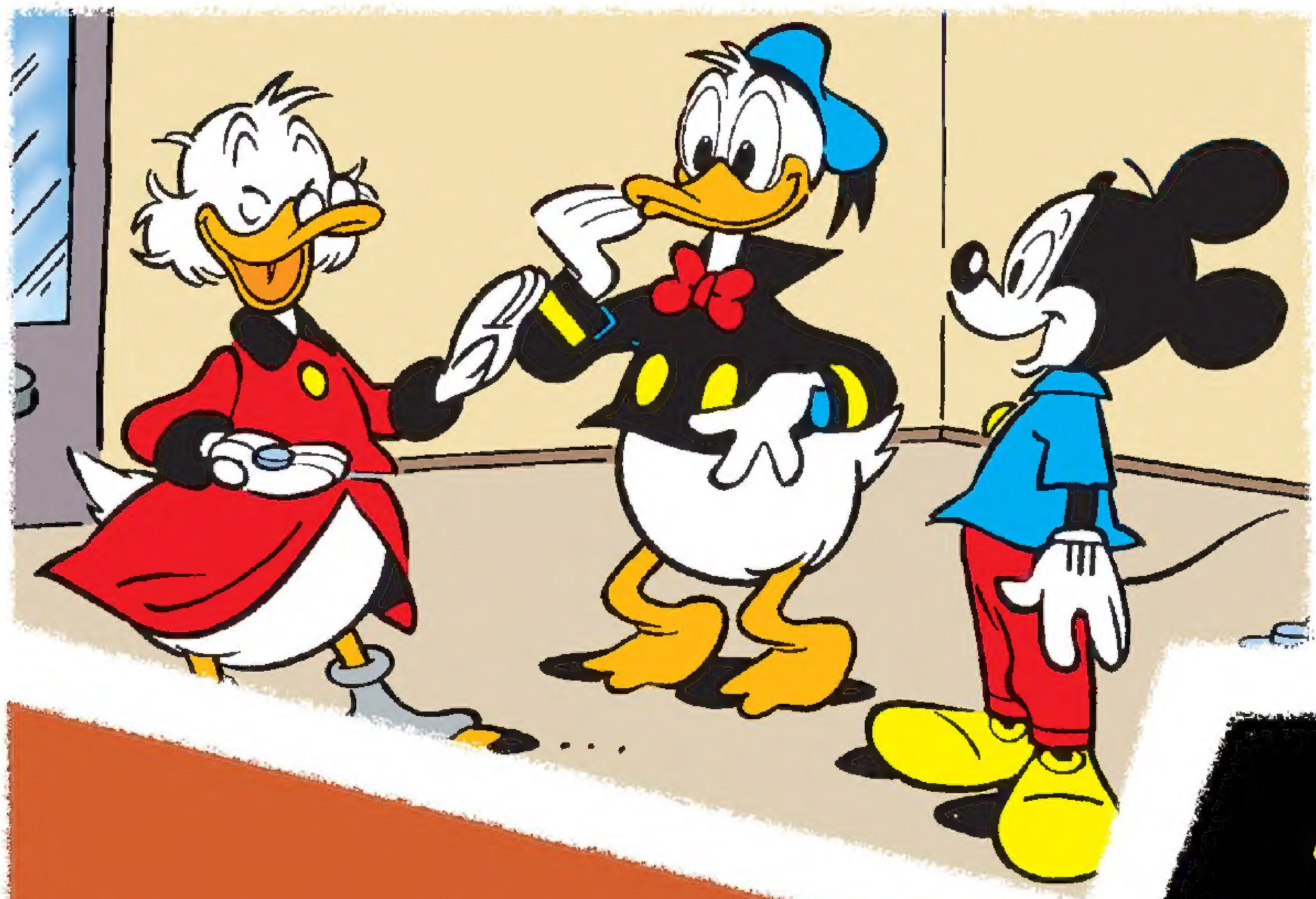
Art by Massimo Fecchi, Colors by Mario Perrotta

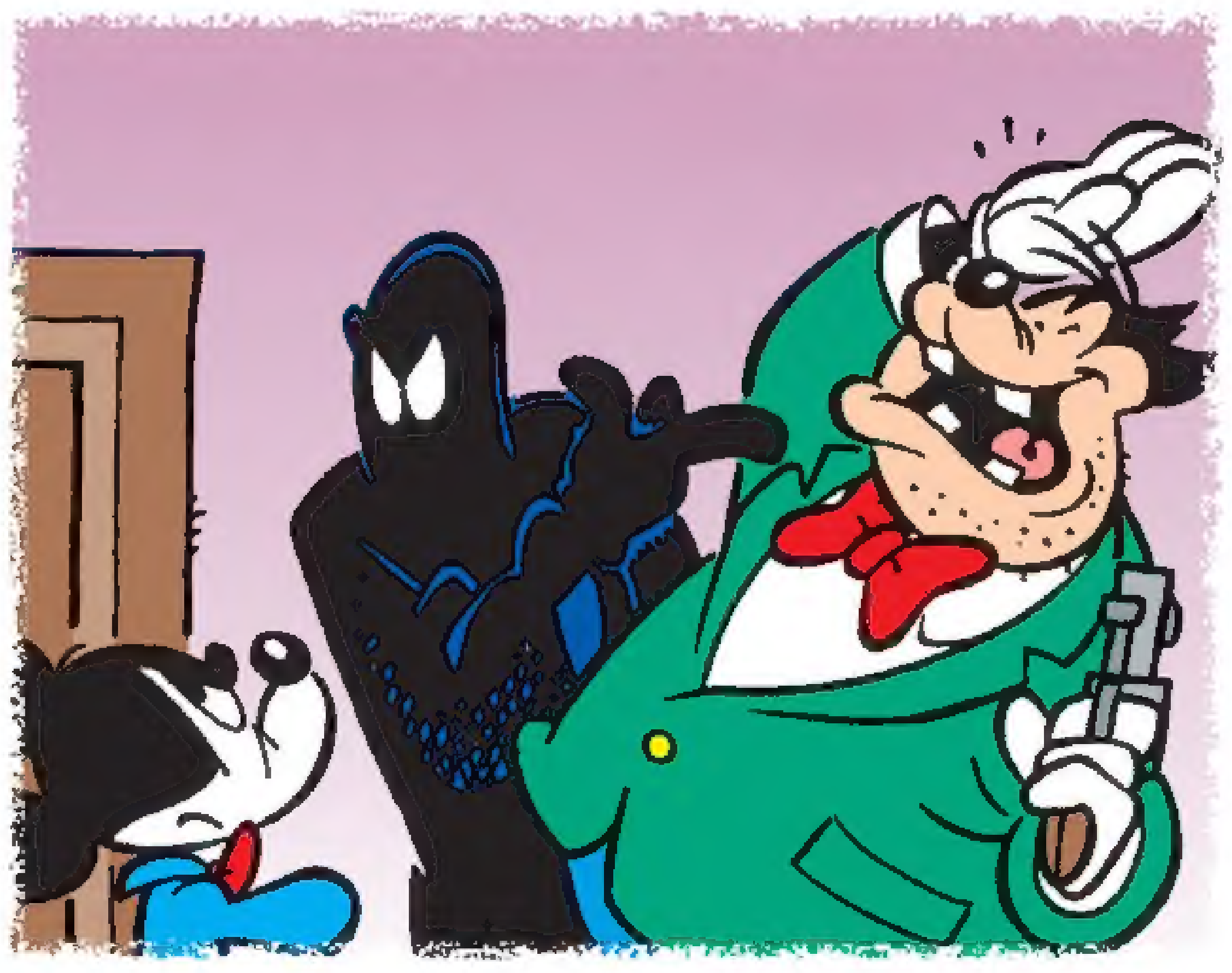
Art by Massimo De Vita, Colors by Ronda Pattison

MICKEY AND DONALD

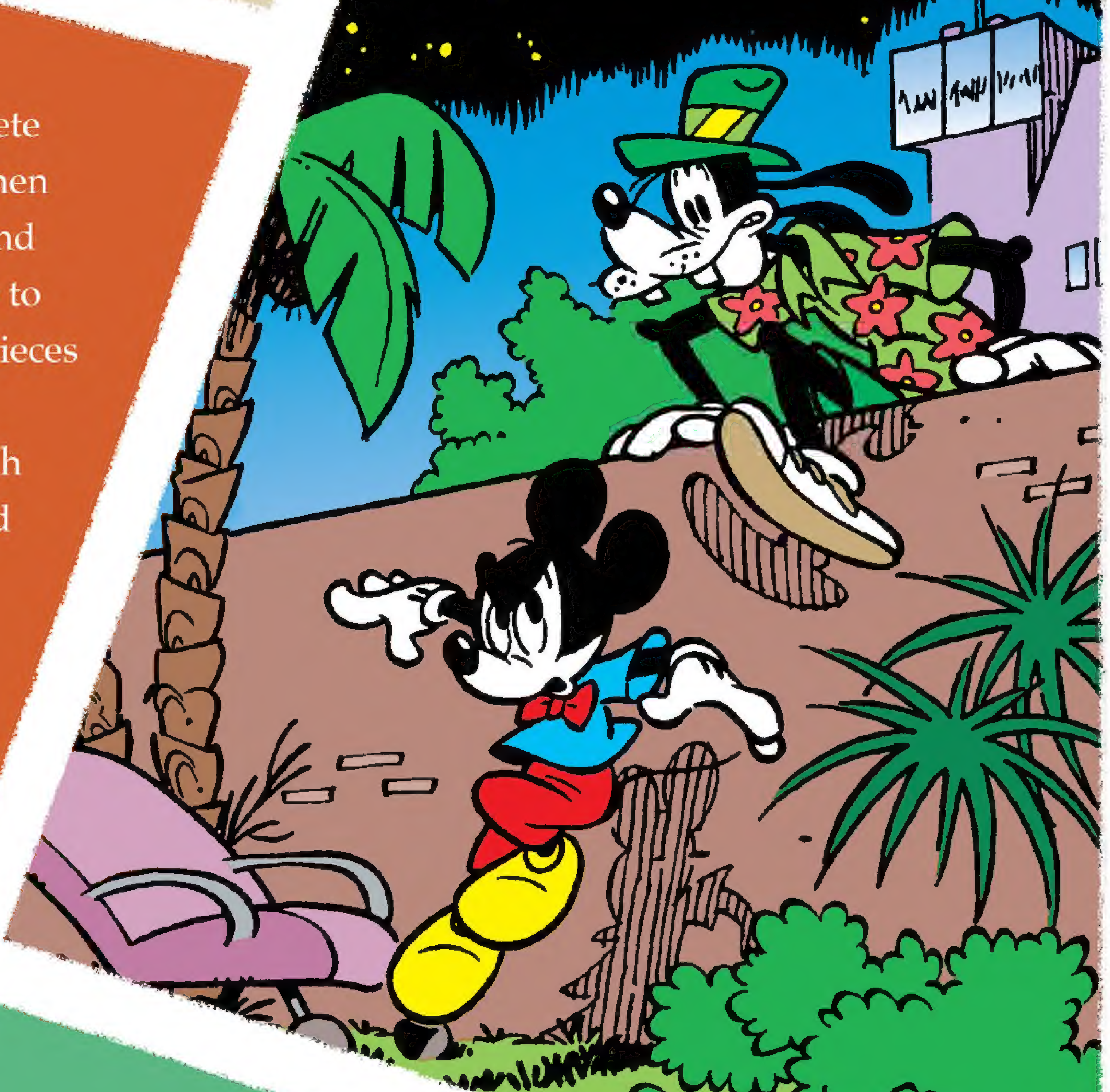
The Search for the Zodiac Stone







It's an epic-length Disney Comics treasure hunt—complete in one book for the first time! When **Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck,** and **Uncle Scrooge McDuck** team up to find and reassemble the twelve pieces of a powerful future-predicting amulet, they're in for trouble with everything from lions, tigers, and ghosts to old enemies **Pegleg Pete, Magica De Spell,** and the **Phantom Blot!**



IDW